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OPINION METER

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INSIDE



Nearly Extinct

For 25 years American zoos have struggled to save the Guam kingfisher from extinction.

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Cocaine Trophy

A Colombia lawbreaker gets top prize for most original material for replica of the World Cup trophy: cocaine.

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Fingernail Art

Never has so much attention been paid to a manicure.

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WASC SPECIAL VISITING TEAM REPORT

'New regents micromanaging NMC'

ON STATUS FOR ALIEN WORKERS

No unified position, just opposing views

- » Kilili says 902 talks could be used, but Filial admin sticks to referendum
- » Some push for extension of transition period beyond 2014



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Senate Vice President Jude U. Hofsneider (R-Tinian), left, gestures as he addresses a public hearing on the long-term status of nonresident workers in the CNMI, while Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) and Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian) listen on Wednesday night in the Garapan Elementary School cafeteria.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Some two months after the U.S. Department of the Interior submitted on April 29 a report to the U.S. Congress on the status of alien workers, the report's contents and recommendations continue to draw opposing views, not a unified position.

Rallies, finger-pointing, public hearings, a push for 902 talks, a plan to hold a referendum and several calls for rejection of or support for the report have so far been done

or tossed around.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) said the CNMI and the U.S. governments could use 902 talks to agree on what to do with the thousands of alien workers in the CNMI.

Section 902 of the CNMI's Covenant with the U.S. allows for periodic consultations between the Commonwealth and federal governments "on all matters affecting the relationship between them."

"There's a way to work this out. Bring the federal government and

the Commonwealth government to the table and talk as reasonable people would talk, instead of the federal government giving us a hard time and Commonwealth officials calling the federal government an enemy," Sablan said in an interview.

The Filial administration is opposed to 902 talks.

It is sticking to holding a referendum in November 2010 to ask voters whether or not they support Interior's recommendations.

Press secretary Angel Demapan,

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By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges uncovered several instances of micromanagement by newly appointed regents, and its most damning statement accuses some regents of being more focused on plotting to remove the former president than ensuring that the college fulfills its mission.

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Draft resolution asks Bordallo to reject Interior report, hold hearings in CNMI

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

A draft resolution asks U.S. House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife chair Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-Guam) to "reject" a U.S. Department of the Interior report given to the U.S. Congress on the status of alien workers in the CNMI.

The draft four-page resolution, authored by Rep. Frederick P. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), also requests Bordallo's subcommittee to conduct hearings in the CNMI on the Interior report.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP), in an interview, said there has been no congressional hearing scheduled yet on the Interior report. He said he has yet to ask for a hearing.

"Until I get a more complete picture of what we all want," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The draft resolution also requests Sablan to "advise" the U.S. Congress "not to entertain the report"

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Juan Babauta garners national GOP's backing



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Former governor Juan N. Babauta, the CNMI Republican Party's candidate for delegate to Congress, poses with Republican Party National chair Michael Steele.

Former governor Juan N. Babauta, the CNMI Republican Party's candidate for delegate to the U.S. Congress, has garnered the endorsement of the National Republican Party following a whirlwind series of meetings in Washington, D.C.

Accompanied by Saipan Sen. Luis Crisostimo, Babauta met with Republican Party National chair Michael Steele and the political director at the congressional committee.

Babauta said Steele was "extremely personable, intelligent, and very knowledgeable" about the Commonwealth, expressing an interest to visit Saipan and meet with local GOP officials.

Babauta also met Republican lawmakers like Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID), Rep. Tim Petri (R-WI), Rep. Ralph Hall (R-TX), Rep. Steve King (R-IA), Rep. Tom Price (R-GA), and

Rep. Doc Hastings during his D.C. trip.

"Rep. Hall has been to Saipan on several occasions and Rep. Wilson has been to Guam on Armed Services matters, and both were very knowledgeable about the CNMI," said Babauta, "but this was an opportunity to update them on our issues and make the others aware of our current problems."

While he gave a general overview of CNMI problems to all the members, Babauta said he concentrated on specific issues they consider in their committee assignments.

"For example," he said, "I brought up with Congressman Wilson our desire to have some additional military activity in the CNMI associated with the move of Marines from Okinawa to Guam; Rep. King ex-

See JUAN on Next Page

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Sandcastle building tilt to benefit Make-a-Wish



CLARISSA DAVID

Australian master sand sculptor Dennis Massoud, kneeling right, poses with organizers and participants for the Sand Castles for Wishes 2010. The event will be held tomorrow at the Hyatt Regency Saipan Beach Park from 8am to 4pm and is presented by TakeCare Insurance.

NMC

From Page 1

The revealing 10-page committee report became the basis for the show-cause sanction imposed on the Northern Marianas College on Wednesday. WASC gave the college until Oct. 15 to address and explain why its accreditation should not be terminated.

Dr. Douglas B. Houston and Dr. Steve Maradian, the special team members who visited the college on April 13-14, conducted the investigation of NMC through documentations and personal interviews with college representatives.

Individual regents reportedly admitted disregarding each other's opinion and several expressed belief that certain board meetings were scheduled to minimize the full participation of members that were expected to vote in opposition of the majority.

The Board of Regents has seven members. Board chair Janet King, vice chair Paz Younis, and members Andrew Orsini and Frank Rabauliman make up the majority bloc. Except for King, the three are newly appointed members.

The minority is composed of Charles Cepeda, Elaine Orilla, and Maria Malua Peter.

The team cited numerous examples of micromanagement by several of the newly appointed regents, including bypassing the president to communicate directly with and assign tasks to individual staff; and directing the president to establish an ad hoc task force to review draft human resources policies and its members.

Direct communication with the press on behalf of the college was also a sign of micromanaging, according to the team.

"Repeatedly, the team heard allegations that the interim president is simply following the frequent and operational directives of the board chair [Janet King]...and many interviewed staff and several regents believe that the interim president [Lorraine Cabrera] was merely a 'puppet' of the board chair," the team reported, adding that this is a clear violation of the commission standard.

It was also learned that the board acted in closed session to consider a service contract with an additional law firm—even if this type of action does

not qualify for closed-door session under board policy. This referred to NMC's decision to hire Guam-based Cabot Mantanona Consulting to handle the suspension of former president Carmen Fernandez despite the presence of legal counsel Jesus Borja.

"The team further observed that members of the governing board are directly engaged in directing operations," the report said.

To effect the recent leadership change at NMC, the team reported that interviewed regents had acknowledged that the board ignored existing personnel policies related to the appointment and compensation of an "acting" president.

The team said the adjustment of compensation for the acting president must also be done after she serves 90 days in position. In Cabrera case, her salary was raised from \$47,000 to \$80,000 per annum, but made retroactive to February.

The team also uncovered that the board chair made the appointment of the interim president and established her salary without board action.

Revelations of allowing terminated faculty to return and teach without any employment action were also cited.

The team also disclosed that several senior administrators, including the interim president, are extremely new to their positions and lack training and experience.

State of confusion, unrest'

The team said the "special visit" in April came about after the commission received several unsolicited e-mails from current and former employees and media reports about the series of ongoing events within the college, including the president's termination, allegations of a "fake" midterm report, a climate of fear, among others.

As a general observation, they disclosed that nearly all interviewed individuals believe that NMC is in a state of "confusion and unrest" while students indicated that many staff and faculty seemed "morose and fearful."

Many staff described NMC's atmosphere as a "climate of fear"—both attributed to the firing of the president and the new leadership at the college.

"The team determined that during the months between the suspension of the former president and the time of the visit, the Board of Regents appeared to be more focused on removing the for-

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

A world renowned sand sculptor is here on island to help make children's dreams come true.

Australian Dennis Massoud arrived on Saipan yesterday to demonstrate his skill in creating larger than life images using sand as his medium. He is also here to participate in the Sand Castles for Wishes 2010 on July 10 at the Hyatt Regency Saipan Beach Park from 8am to 4pm.

Massoud, who has built countless sandcastles all over the world, said he is excited to build sandcastles for a good cause.

Organized by the Taro Leaf Group, the Sand Castles for Wishes 2010 is a sandcastle building competition among participating company and organizational teams that will benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation local chapter.

An instructional class on sandcastle building techniques will be conducted

mer president than on ensuring that the college fulfilled its mission. This has fostered, or exacerbated, what can only be characterized as internecine warfare between faculty and staff factions," the team reported, adding that some even used classroom instructional time to discuss the board and its activities while others attempted to shield students from the political tumult by continuing to focus on learning.

Students interviewed by the team expressed dismay about being distracted from their primary educational goals and that staff seem despondent about the college's future, according to the investigators.

The confidential report also highlighted the obvious governmental interference with college operations.

'Board already addressed micromanaging'

King said yesterday that they have already addressed the issue of micromanagement last month.

"The board previously, just last month, addressed this issue of micromanaging. The interim president brought it to our attention, and we came up with a mechanism so that the board does not participate in college operations. We'll continue to address the issue of board practices relative to college operations at the next ongoing board training session, which we began since our return from Honolulu," King told *Saipan Tribune*.

She believes the instability in NMC's management was particularly noted during the time of Fernandez's termination.

"I believe the instability in management at the time of the termination of the former president caused unprecedented involvement and micromanaging behaviors by regents over the course of those few months. Micromanaging behaviors included direct communication with and making requests from staff members, and bypassing the interim president," she said.

King said the board's involvement in administrative matters is unnecessary, but it happened. "The board needs to take a step back and let the administrators at the college, who were hired to do the things they are paid to do, manage the day-to-day operations of NMC. Board members should simply get their business done, leave, and let the interim president and staff do their work."

for participating teams before the start of the competition.

According to Laila Boyer of the Taro Leaf Group, 12 corporate teams have signed up so far for Saturday's event. Walk-in registration for individual groups of families and non-profit organizations will still be accepted.

A \$100 entry donation fee for companies and \$30 for individual groups is required upon registration.

Each team is given a 5x5 sand plot where they can work on their sculpture that adheres to the theme "A Child's Wish." Only 4 members of the team at

a time are allowed to work on the plot.

An instructional class about sandcastle building techniques will be conducted by the Australian master sculptor himself for the participating teams before the start of the competition.

Victor P. Camacho, executive director of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Guam, said they are very pleased to have been chosen as beneficiary of the event.

The Sand Castles for Wishes 2010 is presented by TakeCare Insurance and sponsored by Make-A-Wish Foundation, Hyatt Regency Saipan, GESCO, Shell Marianas, and Marianas Variety.

STATUS

From Page 1

when asked for comment yesterday, said previous engagements in 902 talks "did not result in fully benefiting the Commonwealth nor did the talks fully heed the will of the people."

"The administration believes that as stakeholders, the people of the Commonwealth should have a direct participation in this decision process. Thus, Governor Fitial and Lt. Governor Inos have expressed their support toward acquiring the will of the people by way of a referendum. This is about putting the will of the people first. The administration does not support any decision that will be made without the support of the people of the Commonwealth," he said.

Rabby Syed, president of the United Workers Movement-NMI, reiterated yesterday the nonresident workers' position in support of the Interior recommendations.

"Instead of blaming each other, the CNMI and federal government need to sit down... Right now, we're stuck and we're not moving on, and the economy continues to suffer, the local people and the nonresident workers are suffering," he said in an interview.

Senate public hearing

The Senate Committee on Federal Relations and Independent Agencies held its third of seven public hearings on the long-term status of alien workers in the CNMI on Wednesday night at Garapan Elementary School, drawing still more opposing views.

Senate Vice President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Saipan) said his committee plans to meet with the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and the CNMI Department of Labor to see whether they support asking the U.S. Congress to extend the transition period beyond 2014 to ensure that nonresident workers will still be able to stay in the CNMI.

The law provides that the guest worker population should be reduced to zero by 2014.

DRAFT

From Page 1

that the Interior submitted, and to urge Bordallo's subcommittee to conduct hearings on the Interior report.

The Interior report, submitted to the U.S. Congress in April, recommends five options that include granting long-term alien workers permanent residency status, U.S. citizenship or a status similar to those granted to citizens of the Freely Associated States.

The draft resolution said that Interior made the recommendation without discussing, among other things, the social, economic, political and cultural impact of such a recommendation and without consulting the CNMI governor.

Ge Zhao, who has been a nonresident worker in the CNMI for seven years, said the CNMI has not even come up with the number of nonresident workers it needs for its economy.

"The boat is sinking; the economy is getting worse and worse," he said at the public hearing.

He said the CNMI government should support the Interior recommendations, and to honor its word that it won't oppose the federal government should it decide to grant "green cards" to nonresident workers.

Sixto Igisomar, who said he is standing up on behalf of indigenous people, said the U.S. should extend the period of transition to federal immigration beyond 2014 until the CNMI's concerns are properly heard.

He reiterated that he is opposed to the Interior report. Igisomar said qualified alien workers in the CNMI should go through the "normal process" set forth in the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act for an improved status.

Syed said while he respects the views held by others in the community, he said extending the transition period will only worsen uncertainties in the CNMI.

"The economy is getting worse. Even local people do not have jobs, the alien workers do not have clear status, the government is broke and can no longer pay its employees. If you extend the transition period without giving clear status to alien workers, then we will continue to have the same problems... This is not about emotion and politics, this is about working together for the CNMI," he said.

'No automatic US citizenship'

Jesus Taisague, a businessman, said the Interior's recommendation is a "tricky" issue, and that the indigenous Chamorros and Carolinians will be further "marginalized" if the U.S. Congress acts on the recommendations.

Taisague challenged Hofschneider's committee to introduce a legislative initiative amending the CNMI Constitution to restrict automatic U.S. citizenship to children of foreign parents.

Deleon Guerrero, as chairman of the House Committee on Federal and Foreign Relations, has set a July 12 committee meeting to discuss his draft resolution.

The draft resolution reiterated many of the views of lawmakers when they adopted in May a joint resolution "strongly opposing" the Interior report.

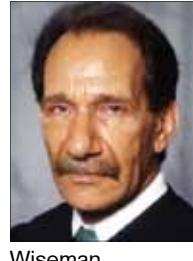
But because it is only a draft at this time, the proposed resolution may still go through revisions during the committee meeting on Monday.

Rabby Syed, president of the United Workers Movement-NMI, said he respects the views of others in the community, but called on the CNMI government to work with the federal government on immigration issues for the sake of local residents, nonresidents and the economy, among other things.

Aldan alleges DPS coverup in missing gun to protect cop

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman ordered yesterday the temporary release of Vicente T. Aldan, who gave the court new evidence that could lead to the whereabouts of a missing handgun.



Wiseman

Aldan was found in civil contempt last month for failing to turn over the gun that he used in the commission of a crime he pleaded guilty to. In his latest declaration, Aldan said he believes that police officers retrieved the gun from where he had hidden it to protect the wrongdoing of another police officer.

'CUC gives credit adjustment for undetected water leakage'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. said the agency provides credit adjustments to customers who are being billed for undetected water leaks, according to assistant executive director Abe Utu Malae yesterday.

This credit adjustment, he said, will be based on the extent of the leak and how long it went undetected.

This week, some Kagman residents have complained about being overcharged for water due to undetected leaks. From paying a flat rate of just \$30 a month, these residents recently got a billing of over \$2,000.

Malae explained that this bill is not an overcharge.

"Actual water passed through

"The court will allow [Aldan] to be released on a temporary basis pending the hearing on Aug. 3, 2010, to decide if defendant has purged himself of contempt," said the judge in a two-page written order.

Wiseman ordered Aldan to appear at the Aug. 3 hearing to elaborate on his declaration.

Aldan, 52, pleaded guilty to assaulting his former wife in July 2009 on Tinian. On Nov. 4, 2009,

Wiseman sentenced him to six months in prison without parole and ordered him to turn over the handgun he used in the assault.

On June 2 this year, Wiseman found Aldan in civil contempt after finding out that he failed to

turn over the gun. He remanded Aldan to the custody of the Department of Corrections.

He gave Aldan the opportunity to purge himself of contempt by turning over the weapon to authorities or by providing the court with credible information on the gun's whereabouts.

Last June 30, Aldan, through counsel Joaquin DLG. Torres, filed a declaration about the missing gun.

He disclosed that the gun was originally issued to a Department of Public Safety officer who was dating his nephew. That officer allegedly gave the gun to Aldan's nephew and that's how he obtained the weapon.

In his order, Wiseman welcomed Aldan's information, but

said the court finds it necessary

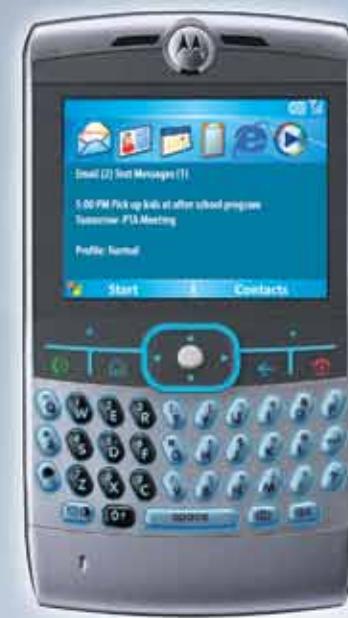
to clarify inconsistencies with Aldan's former testimony and his new declaration.

"Thus, the court needs to

hear additional testimony in order to determine if defendant has purged himself of his contempt," Wiseman said.

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Acting governor's daughter resigns from DPS

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Kay Inos, daughter of acting Gov. Eloy Inos, resigned as officer-in-charge of the Department of Public Safety's Fiscal Affairs Section, DPS Commissioner

Santiago F. Tudela confirmed yesterday.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Tudela said that Kay Inos submitted her resignation letter Wednesday morning—the day when Ambrosio Ogumoro was reinstated as DPS deputy commissioner.

commissioner.

Tudela said that Kay Inos did not indicate the reason for her decision.

Sources at DPS disclosed, however, that Ogumoro's return triggered Kay Inos' resignation. Kay Inos does not like the way

Ogumoro runs the department's operations, sources said.

Sources said there was a particular incident when Kay Inos and Ogumoro had a disagreement on who among the DPS personnel should attend an off-island training.

That disagreement was one of the reasons why Tudela kicked out Ogumoro as deputy

commissioner last May 19, sources said.

At the time, Gov. Benigno Fitial was off-island and Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos was the acting governor.

Tudela said yesterday he and Ogumoro had a meeting on Wednesday where they discussed what he expects of him as deputy commissioner. Tudela

refused to comment about Ogumoro's reinstatement.

Tudela terminated Ogumoro on May 19, just soon after Ogumoro slammed the Drug Enforcement Agency in a press conference for alleged credit-grabbing. Tudela at that time clarified, though, that he was not terminating Ogumoro for the stunt.

Search panel raises qualifications for new NMC president

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Members of the Northern Marianas College presidential search committee raised the bar for the college's chief executive officer,

setting a minimum requirement of a master's degree and five years of executive level management experience. Knowledge and experience about multicultural environments, federal programs, and accredi-

tation process were also among the minimum credentials.

The committee announced the opening for the position in a press briefing yesterday. It will be open for a month starting today through Aug. 9, and the

committee expects to get a pool of applicants from here and off-island.

The committee will give preference to applicants who meet or exceed some other qualifications such as a doctoral degree in education administration or related fields from a U.S. ac-

credited institution and if he/she possesses five years or more experience in an executive position in higher education administration or related fields.

Preference will also be given to those with knowledge of technology used in higher education, three years or more teaching experience in postsecondary institutions, and considerable experience with Asia-Pacific island cultures.

Maria Paz Younis, who chairs the search committee, admitted that the requirements are "very ambitious" and "ideal" but they are optimistic they can get a

qualified person for the post. They hope to recommend a final candidate for board action in September.

It was disclosed that NMC will hire a consultant to do a background check of the top finalists.

The incoming president will be paid \$80,000 per year, plus benefits.

The search committee has nine members: Younis, Pam Buckingham, Dr. Liz Rechebei, Mindy Park, John Manalo, Clarice Arriola, Sam McPhetres, Edward Manibusan, and Ed Camacho.

Woman who tried to smuggle 'ice' to Tinian gets 100-day prison term

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A woman arrested in April at the Saipan International Airport for "ice" possession pleaded guilty yesterday and was sentenced to five years in prison, all suspended except for a hundred days.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo gave Sylvia San Nicolas Borja credit for the time she had already served in jail since being arrested on April 9. Borja will be released from prison on July 18, 2010.

She will then be placed on supervised probation for four years and 265 days.

Borja was also directed to pay a \$500 fine, \$100 court assessment fee, plus probation fee, and to perform 100 hours of community service, including speaking to children and adults about the dangers of drug use.

Borja, 37, pleaded guilty to illegal possession of drugs as part of a plea bargain. She was represented at the hearing by assistant public defender Richard Miller.

Detective Sean White stated in his report that a detective had received information from a "cooperating source" that Borja was on Saipan to purchase "ice" from a drug dealer for distribution on Tinian.

White said members of the CNMI Customs and Department of Public Safety Drug Enforcement Task Force, with assistance from the CNMI Customs I-9 units, conducted a surveillance operation.

When Borja entered the departure area on her way back to Tinian on April 9, a K-9 officer used a K-9 dog to search all passengers and belongings in the area.

A search of Borja and her belongings caused the dog to react. Authorities retrieved from Borja .75 gross grams of "ice" that she had concealed in a plastic baggie inside a Hi-C box that she was drinking from.

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9th Circuit opinion a first in history of CNMI High Court

On July 1, 2010, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit issued an opinion in *Kabir v. Barcenas*. The Ninth Circuit's opinion represents a first in the CNMI Supreme Court's history. It is the first time that the U.S. Court of Appeals has issued a decision concerning local CNMI law after submitting a certified question to the CNMI Supreme Court.

Here's the back story: In April 2009, the U.S. federal Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit submitted two questions about local CNMI law to the Commonwealth Supreme Court in the case of *Kabir v. Barcenas*. The case involved a claim by Homayan Kabir, a security

guard at Dandan Elementary School, against the Commonwealth Public School System and Jonas Barcenas – the principal of Dandan Elementary – alleging violations of federal and CNMI law. In the federal district court, the CNMI attorney general moved to have the Commonwealth government substituted as the defendant in Barcenas' place pursuant to the Commonwealth Employees' Liability Reform and Tort Compensation Act of 2006 ("CELRTCA").

In response to the Ninth Circuit's questions, the Supreme Court first held that it had jurisdiction to receive and answer such questions from the federal court of appeals. It then issued a 32-page opinion addressing the federal court's questions. The court's opinion can be found on the judiciary's Web site in the News Archive section under *Kabir v. PSS and Barcenas*, 2009 MP 19.

This month the Ninth Circuit issued its opinion after receiv-

ing the Supreme Court's answers. The federal court of appeals first expressed gratitude to the CNMI Supreme Court for accepting the questions. It went on to say: "The reasoning of the CNMI Supreme Court is self-explanatory and dispositive," or conclusive in the settlement of the appeal. In accordance with the CNMI Supreme Court's answers to the certified questions, the federal court of appeals reversed the District Court and sent the case back to the federal trial court in which Kabir will be allowed to challenge the CNMI Attorney General's determination that the government should be substituted as the defendant in the case. (PR)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 9, 1999

Price ceiling for betel nuts proposed

Saying they have become luxury to most consumers, Rep. Timmo Olopai wants to put in place a price control on betel nuts sold in stores and impose tax on its importation. The legislator blamed foreign business for jacking up the retail price of the betel nuts over the past five years by importing these products and selling them at exorbitant prices. Under a proposed measure he filed yesterday in the House of Representatives, the retail price shall be capped at not more than \$1 for young betel nuts not less than six pieces as well as for hard nuts not less than five pieces.

Court: Zachares, Goldberg not immune from lawsuit

Government officials who perform administrative duties and conduct investigations that have nothing to do with preparations for judicial proceedings are not absolutely immune from lawsuits. US District Court Judge Alex Munson invoked this jurisprudence in denying labor officials' motion for dismissal of a lawsuit filed by a nonresident worker. The case was filed by Ariel Gorromeo against Labor Secretary Mark Zachares and the immigration division's legal counsel Asst. Atty. Gen. Robert Goldberg. Gorromeo, represented by lawyer Anthony Long, alleged that he was arrested and detained twice by labor and immigration agents without any warrant nor proper procedure.

July 9, 2001

Budget cuts threaten other PSS programs

A significant slash in the Public School System's budget would put not only the kindergarten program under peril but also other essential services offered by PSS, said Education Board Chair Anthony Pellegrino. PSS has asked the government a \$59 million budget for Fiscal Year 2002. "We have not made a decision yet about the kindergarten program. We're just looking at scenarios and our options, if we are given an X amount of dollars for the next fiscal year," said Pellegrino last week. The BOE chief also announced that PSS will initiate a public hearing with community members tackling education programs which merits the institution's top priority, once the Legislature passes the budget.

234 lbs of banned medicine seized

Customs personnel confiscated 234 pounds of banned pharmaceutical products last month, slightly down from May's seizure of 238 pounds. Public Law 11-40 restricts the entry of non-English labeled pharmaceutical products into the Northern Marianas. The Airport Branch of the customs division reported that agents have also confiscated unsealed medicine bottles that are suspected of being tampered. A customs official noted that arrivals often fill up English-labeled medicine bottles with quantities of tablets and capsules that were manufactured and bottled in their countries of origin. About 90 percent of the banned products were confiscated from Chinese nationals, while the remaining 10 percent were brought in by Filipinos and Koreans.

July 9, 2002

EMO: Rota may be placed under state of emergency

Emergency Management Office Director Rudolfo Pua yesterday said his office may recommend the declaration of Rota under a state of emergency if a final assessment of the damages caused by typhoon Chata'an would show that the magnitude of destruction is such that the Commonwealth coffers would not be able to handle. Pua said this as local government officials meet today to finalize an assessment report of the damages caused by Chata'an. The EMO chief said he would make the recommendation possibly for Rota, which was reported to be the hardest hit by the typhoon compared to Saipan and Tinian.

Legislature to try breaking three-year jinx on budget

With less than three months to go before the fiscal year ends, the House of Representatives will reportedly act this week to pass the proposed \$213-million spending plan for 2003, as lawmakers attempt to break the three-year jinx hounding the budget. With such a close deadline, however, it would help much to smooth the measure's passage in the Legislature if both chambers meet first in a sort of joint conference this week to iron out any differences. Thus, when the bill goes to the floor of both houses, it will not be hobbled by arguments and unexpected amendments. Senate Vice President Jose Dela Cruz stressed these points yesterday, saying that House Speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider had told him the other day that the lower chamber is planning to pass the budget at the end of this week, Friday.



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PUBLIC NOTICE FOR HEARING

Friday, July 2, 2010, First Notice
Friday, July 9, 2010, Second Notice

The Employee and Employer is hereby notified to report to the Department of Labor, Administrative Hearing Office, 2nd Floor, Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, Saipan for a hearing to address the matter of the complaint. This notice will serve as a "Proof of Service of this Notice of Hearing". For information, please call 236-0900 ext. 295/298.

Employee	Employer	Case Number	Date/Time
Sanchez, Antonio I.	Grace Christian Ministries	CAC#10-404-06	07/23/2010 at 9:00 AM
Alvaro, Jaime T.	Aldan, Bernadita C.	CAC#10-402-06	07/13/2010 at 1:30PM

Failure to appear on the scheduled date may result in an Administrative Order being entered against you.

Dated this 30th day of June 2010.

/s/ Jeffrey T. Camacho
Enforcement OIC

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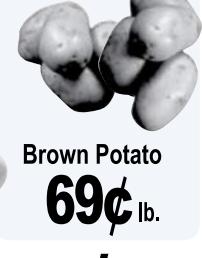
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Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

CNN should aim high with King replacement

As CNN's Larry King snaps his suspenders and heads into the sunset, the first 24-hour news channel faces a gaping hole in its primetime lineup. And we have ideas about what to do with that hole.

Already, the network is making a dramatic change by bringing back a political debate show that sounds a lot like "Crossfire," circa the Clinton era. We expect a lot more, though, from Washington-based columnist Kathleen Parker and former New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer than what "Crossfire" became in its later years. The tone of our national debate is sour enough without another nightly exercise of lining up talking points and flinging them across the table, food-fight style.

The nightly menu of prime-time news show offerings includes a lot of high-pitched ranting, a lot of personal jabs, a lot of strident partisanship. Sure, there are other insightful interviews and a flood of information, but even with King's shortcomings, his show had its place. It was a rare time when you might catch an in-depth interview with someone affected by a recent tragedy—or a chat with Kid Rock.

The 24-hour cable news menu needs that kind of variety, so we hope CNN doesn't go all-in on the trend toward personality-driven, in-your-face political-dogma-as-sport shows. There are more than enough of those on both sides of the spectrum.

Some possible alternatives? Oprah has been mentioned. Ryan Seacrest is getting a lot of buzz. On the other end of the "serious news" spectrum, CNN might consider its own Fareed Zakaria, one of the best interviewers on TV, a journalist who makes U.S. audiences smarter almost by osmosis.

No matter which direction CNN chooses, we hope the network will elevate our national discussion and remind us that there's more to life—even to current events—than constant bickering.

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The future is coming fast; are we ready?

We don't have the luxury of waiting for the future to hit us in the face with its harsh reality. *It is here already!* The past decade has seen our wonderful country stagger under the effects of an external economic and political whipping that has brought us to the edge of economic collapse. Payless paydays are upon us and there is more bad news to come.

We must begin today preparing for the future with bright new ideas that will move us back toward financial prosperity and give us hope for the future once more. We can stop the "brain drain" occurring as many of our best and brightest citizens move away to get a better life. They will come back if we act now to make our future—the future of ALL the CNMI—prosperous.

I propose a four-part integrated plan to turn Saipan, Tinian and Rota around financially. With money in our citizens' pockets and a strong and growing public and private cash flow going, most of our other ills will take care of themselves with a little help.

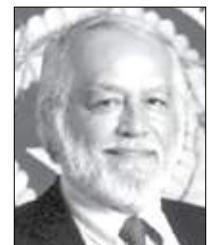
First, we must tame the dreaded Utility Power monster. The latest generation safe and secure *nuclear power* is a possibility for all three islands and eternally renewable *geothermal energy* right here on Saipan is also a possibility. We need to move forward immediately to decide which is best, fastest, and safest and will deliver the cheapest power. Then we need to start building it immediately. We can't wait and waste any more years. We must have reliable, cheap power to sustain ourselves and to attract investment. We must do it now.

Second, *tourism* continues to be our only lifeline. Our only income stems from this delicate source. We must find and nurture an alternative income producing industry. In the meantime we must be imaginative in our actions on how to greatly expand the number of visitors who come here and the money they leave behind. One attraction that can draw huge numbers of cash-rich visitors is *casino gaming* on all three islands. On Saipan where the infrastructure already exists for airport entry and major hotels to host international level gaming; on Tinian where needed airport upgrades are just a short step away from jump starting the existing casino and finally setting the stage for new resort investment; and on Rota where its charming setting can become a mecca for laidback upscale tourists to come, visit, relax and play in world-class casinos.

Third, *tourism*, like any other business needs a "hook," something different, and something few if any other places offer. One such idea is gaining momentum in several places around the globe. If we strongly regulate and heavily tax sales and use of cannabis, or marijuana, huge amounts of money would roll into our government coffers and be spread throughout our economy. Large numbers of visitors from all around the world, not just Asia, would start immediately streaming to our shores to avail themselves of this natural plant and its benefits for health and pleasure. This is truly a completely renewable resource. Business would spring up to accommodate and service these worldwide customers. The CNMI would have a very profitable agriculturally-based export crop of major proportions within a very short period of time. Worldwide attention and huge amounts of free publicity would heap itself on us at virtually

By STANLEY T. McGINNIS TORRES
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Stanley T. McGinnis Torres is a member of the House of Representatives of the 17th Legislature.



no cost to us. Millions of people around the world use this plant but have to hide. If we bring it out in the open, many of them would come here to rest, relax and enjoy our islands in paradise while having access to their favorite varieties of cannabis in a safe setting. Some say we might lose U.S. funding. So what? We will have so much income from this we can do without it.

Fourth, to have a sustainable economy we need to have a sustainable environment. We should do all we can to recycle much of the money that will come our way from the above income sources into maintaining and improving our infrastructure and our environment. While keeping natural areas is important for attracting tourists and for providing us residents with a playground we must also balance that need with the needs of a growing population and with the God-given rights of individuals to use their property as they best see fit for themselves and their families. We must have green spaces but we don't want to all live on a barge outside the lagoon and just look at the land from there. Endangered species are important, but not as important as the humans who protect them and who protect their own families. Let us strive to strike this balance and if we err slightly let it be on the side of humanity, not on the side of blind environmental extremism. God has given us the fishes of the sea and these beautiful isles to sustain ourselves. Let us protect and improve them for our own reasonable use and for our children and their children to use when their time comes.

Were it not for the fiscally responsible policies of the past few years, we would already be down and out, lying on the economic canvas. If we do not act now and act decisively we will surely wind up on our knees and on that canvas sooner, not later. Yes, we need to talk and we need to plan but more than anything right now we need to make some important decisions and we need to *act* on those decisions right away while there is still time. Our country, like us, needs income; we need jobs and industry and opportunities.

Yes, my fellow citizens, the future is coming and it will not wait. We would either prepare ourselves for it and set the groundwork for prosperity and freedom or we will fall into that vast chasm of hopelessness and poverty that leaves us at the mercy of political powers much stronger than we are. Our chance at self-governance may soon disappear.

Do we make our own destiny or do we let time relentlessly bear down on us until all our choices are gone? Join with me and let's act now, *right now*, to improve our lives, our land, our homes, our families and our prospects for the future.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Ed's market data (and yours too)

Today I'm unveiling a simple tool I created for readers of this column. It's a "market data" page, and you can see it by going to my Web site, TropicalEd.com, and clicking on the "Markets" link.

The creation of that page was inspired by the occasional e-mail from *Tribune* readers, asking me how they could find updated pricing information on various financial stuff such as gold, oil, Japanese yen, and so on. The Web is rife with that information, of course, but I wanted to gather certain data into one simple and easy to read page.

So, that's just what I did.

The following data is presented in six fields:

1. Energy and Metals

Ever wonder how much gasoline really costs at the wholesale level? Well, as of right now, it's \$2.03 a gallon. Maybe I ruined your day by telling you that. Anyway, the Energy and Metals (Commodities) section has prices on oil, natural gas, gasoline, heating oil (not something we think about on Saipan, but it's a big deal for investors), gold, silver, and copper.

As you know, I yack a lot about oil, so if you want to join the gabfest, you can arm yourself here.

Meanwhile, you may have caught the *Tribune*'s July 7 article about yet another copper heist, this one from the WinGuide printing company's facility, formerly the Island Apparel building. The heist was reported at \$8,000 worth of copper. How much copper is that? Well, we can simply look at my market data page, whereupon

we'll note that copper is \$3.01. Since copper is priced in dollars per pound, \$8,000 would equate to 2,658 pounds, at least if you value it at wholesale. Why on earth an industrial facility would have that much copper inside is beyond me.

By the way, when I say "wholesale" I mean the prices at the exchange, so if there is some other nuance to this term (and there probably is) please excuse my sloppy terminology, I don't know what else to call it.

2). The yen

The Japanese yen to U.S. dollar rate is presented here, along with a graph showing the trend. If the trend is going up, the dollar is getting stronger against the yen. If the trend is going down, the dollar is getting weaker. As I write these words I note that one dollar equals 87.9 yen.

3). Other Forex

"Forex" is the cool word for "foreign exchange." The Chinese yuan is hot news now, and will be for the foreseeable future, so you can track it here (it's 6.77 to the dollar right now). There are other currencies in the table too, but I included the table just for the yuan part.

4). Asian stocks

This includes Asian stock indexes from Japan, Hong Kong, China, Singapore, Taiwan, and a few others. My favorite economy, South Korea, isn't included here, but see below for good news.

5). U.S. and international stocks

The Dow Industrials, S&P 500, and NASDAQ can be seen at a

glance. There is a scrolling window within this section, so you can scroll down for all sorts of international market information including, yes, South Korea's Seoul Composite Index. Cool!

6). U.S. Treasuries

This shows interest rates on Uncle Sam's government paper for various maturities. Interest rates are downright silly right now, but that's a topic for a different day, so 'nuff said for now.

Well, that's pretty much the important stuff at one glance. There are a couple of elements I'd like to add to the page, such as the Korean won and the Philippine peso, but I'm using free data-feed from financial companies, so I have to pick from the stuff that's available. This data is free, incidentally, because the companies want eyeballs on their links and embedded ads. That's OK with me, since it gives you and I free information that is continuously updated.

Since my market data page was written based on your feedback, I welcome your comments and questions.



By ED STEPHENS

Special to the *Saipan Tribune*

Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at TropicalEd.com and SaipanBlog.com.

Your greatest investment: You

By MITCH ANTHONY

MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Few conversations are more fascinating than what money means in our lives.

People constantly mull, study, worry, regret, scrutinize, second-guess, hope and fantasize over money. Sometimes it becomes an obsession.

"What are you invested in?"

"What do you think of the stock market right now?"

"Where is the safe haven that pays anything these days?"

That's what I hear these days when I talk about money, especially among people who are approaching what has traditionally been called retirement age. But I propose a different question; one that gets past money and gets to the quality of your life:

"What is the greatest investment you can ever make?"

The answer, as some of you may have already guessed, is the YOU Fund.

How do you start investing in yourself? It's a simple question that requires a complex array of answers. My goal with this column is to provide some of them. I want you to think not so much about your returns on investments, but about your return on life.

Millions of us are working in jobs we can barely tolerate, toiling

away in search of a dollar we can't enjoy because we are stressed, discouraged and indebted beyond our means. If this sounds like you, it's time to take control of your financial life so you can make the most out of your life.

After all, what good is a big pile of money? To impress your friends? If you really think about what life should be about, it is just wrong to have missed out on life's experiences just so you can amass enough money to allow you to "retire" and do nothing for about 30 years.

We've all heard that you'll never see a hearse pulling a U-Haul. But chances are you know of somebody who ended up in that hearse because of financial stress.

A major medical study announced recently proves it. People who work more than 10 hours a day are about 60 percent more likely to develop heart disease or have a heart attack than people who clock just seven hours a day.

So why are you working so hard? If it's simply to make more money, you're dead wrong.

I'm not against people having money. I just see too many people squandering it on things that add little of importance to their lives. Managed unwisely, money can hinder your chances of living a full life. You work harder—and you can't have the experiences you want—just to pay interest on more debt.

A healthy conversation about money must begin with the cor-

rect starting point: How can I live the best life possible with the money I have?

Chances are your thoughts quickly turn to living healthier, eliminating and managing stress, spending time with family and friends and having some 'me' time to just enjoy a sunset or a ballgame.

And chances are your thoughts do not turn to all those expensive things you bought on credit before experiencing buyer's remorse, or those investments you wished you hadn't made, or the deals you missed because you were too impatient.

You need to invest in yourself. The best parts of your life probably are not those things on which you make payments, but on the relationships and experiences you invest in along the way.

These experiences and relationships, and the good you create with them, are how you invest in the YOU fund. In these columns we can talk about the best ways to make a commitment to increase your experiences while decreasing our obligations. That puts you on the path to getting the most life for your money.

Mitch Anthony is the founder and president of the Financial Life Planning Institute. He is the author of The New Retirementality: Planning Your Life and Living Your Dreams ... at Any Age You Want. Readers may write to him at: Advisor Insights Inc., P.O. Box 34, Rochester, Minn. 55903.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A few thoughts on Interior's report

For months now I have been reading the news and listening to comments made on Interior's report and I hear the following:

1. Some are against it because the foreign workers were brought here to work only.

2. They might take over our government, because they have more votes.

3. There is no guarantee that they will favor our side.

4. They will take over all of our jobs.

5. The Covenant agreement will be changed, along with Article XII.

6. It's good for our economy because we will have more sustained taxpayers and less labor fees.

7. We will have more educated and qualified individuals to do the work and improve our skills.

8. If we don't agree, a lot of businesses will shut down due to unaffordable labor and immigration fees (e.g., immigration processing \$3,000 x 50 employees = \$150,000).

9. How many qualified locals are willing to work for the private sector for a minimum wage, which is less than the U.S. standard? Think about this because even local businesses will be affected.

10. New requirements might be harder to meet for some of us. Families who are married to alien workers might not be able to afford paying for these fees and might get deported and the consequences of letting our children suffer is not so good.

11. Right now, we are barely making ends meet, even with the

presence of these guest workers. How are we going to survive if most of them are deported?

12. It's better for us because, instead of paying for labor processing fees to hire aliens, we will pay the U.S. standard minimum wages and hire a U.S. standard qualified individual who will help meet our customers' needs.

13. We have better chances in hiring qualified U.S. citizens than workers from other countries who do not meet U.S. qualifications.

14. I don't always trust federal laws because some are not applicable to our culture. Even now, I don't feel safe with these human rights organizations fighting for their rights in our home. In our culture, if we're invited to stay in someone's home and we are treated badly, we leave. We don't stay and try to kick the owner out of his own home.

15. I would prefer that we get to select who we want to keep and who we want to get rid of, because 20,000 is too much for us to handle.

16. How about saying yes to giving them limited citizenship, with no voting rights until they meet our standard to be U.S. citizens?

There are more but for now these are what I remember. So now, decide on what you think we should do next.

Winnie Atalig

San Jose Tinian

Now is the time to privatize CUC

Yes, it is time to privatize CUC. But not the way the government wants to. I would like to see the residents of the CNMI for a "utility co-op." It is not an easy thing to do; however I feel it would be worth the effort to do it. You form a utility co-op and get it registered and start selling shares. Then we buy CUC from the government. We are going to need a good corporate attorney to set up the by-laws and rules for the co-op.

The benefits are many. It will belong to the residents of the CNMI. You will have a say in how it is operated and what the rates need to be. When we get it back on its feet and start making money it will pay dividend on your shares (quarterly), you will never get rich on the dividend, but if you are like me, every dollar helps. But best of all, all the money will stay here on the island and help build the economy. How do you ever hope to build a strong economy if all the money that companies make keep leaving the island.

I have talked to a lot of people and they all seem to think that I have a good idea. Well, the time for talking is coming to an end. I am asking the public to meet with me on Friday, July 16, at 7pm, at the American Memorial Park Amphitheater. If you want to change things for the better for you and your family please take time to come to the meeting. Let us see if we can get this idea off the ground and up and moving. I hope to see a lot of you there.

Please attend the meeting on Friday, July 16, at 7pm.

Frederick A. Prosser

As Matuia, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.			
▲ 84° ▼ 76°	▲ 84° ▼ 77°	▲ 84° ▼ 77°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 84° ▼ 77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88 ▼ 79
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 78
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 82 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Rain	▲ 82 ▼ 75
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 85 ▼ 78
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▼ 77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲ 55 ▼ 46
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲ 76 ▼ 66
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 76
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 75
London	Mostly Sunny	▲ 81 ▼ 63
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 74 ▼ 63
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 89 ▼ 76
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 54 ▼ 47
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 90 ▼ 81
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 74
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 71
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲ 88 ▼ 68
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲ 77 ▼ 71
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲ 91 ▼ 68
Salem	Sunny	▲ 95 ▼ 62
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 57
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 84 ▼ 70
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲ 83 ▼ 75
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲ 94 ▼ 77

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
4:03 AM	Today	High Tide: 1.9 Feet
11:48 AM	Today	Low Tide: 0.3 Feet
7:09 PM	Today	High Tide: 1.8 Feet
11:55 PM	Today	Low Tide: 1.4 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	5:53 AM	6:52 PM	Today	2:53 AM	4:21 PM
Saturday	5:53 AM	6:52 PM	Saturday	3:52 AM	5:21 PM
Sunday	5:53 AM	6:52 PM	Sunday	4:55 AM	6:20 PM
Monday	5:54 AM	6:52 PM	Monday	5:59 AM	7:15 PM
Tuesday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM	Tuesday	7:04 AM	8:07 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

■ ISLAND SNAPSHOT Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

■ BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

■ BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

■ SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

■ TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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■ *11 on any PTI cellular phone
■ Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 8, 2010

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM				GUAM-ROTA (ROP)			
C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5	C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily	C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily	DL290	9:45am	2:35pm	Daily
DL297	3:20pm	5:55pm	Daily	DL289	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:10pm	Daily	DL288	8:40pm	1:10am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NAG)				NAGOYA-SAIPIAN			
DL640	7:40am	10:20am	Daily	DL641	9:10am	1:45am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
0Z608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	0Z607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z604	2:20am	6:00am	1	0Z605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
0Z604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z606	3:30pm	7:00pm					

69 solutions offered to address Retirement Fund mess

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sixty-nine ideas offered by concerned community members in the last two years on how to solve the problems besetting the NMI Retirement Fund were compiled and submitted to the Fund and it is up to the board now to weigh which of the suggestions are worth a try or completely ignored.

Although many of these proposals are described as outrageously impossible and impractical, there are ones that many believe are doable and easy enough to implement immediately without too much hassle.

Top on the list—as compiled by Oscar Camacho of the Commonwealth Retirees Association—is a proposal to reduce the size of the Legislature to help the government pay off its \$281-million judgment to the Fund.

The suggestion also wants the Legislature to stop the \$300,000 allocation to the Governor's Office, along with cutting the \$150,000 allowance to certain lawmakers, including Rota and Tinian officials.

Besides reducing the size of the Legislature, community members also want a reduction in the number of government employees.

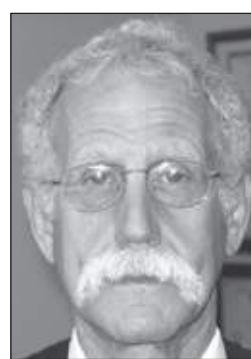
To realize some operational costs, the central government was also urged to pursue the privatization of the only hospital on island, along with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is also one of the agencies some community members want privatized.

Customs inspector in 'ice' case gets 30 days in prison

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A CNMI Customs inspector tagged by authorities as a supplier of methamphetamine or "ice" pleaded guilty yesterday and was ordered to spend 30 days in prison.



Govendo

term, Maratita will be placed on three years of supervised probation.

Govendo required him to pay a \$100 court assessment fee plus a probation service fee.

Govendo said that Maratita shall forfeit all funds and contraband found at the time of his arrest.

He ordered Maratita to undergo counseling at the Community Guidance Center for substance/alcohol abuse.

Maratita was found in possession of "ice" worth \$20 and \$50 on April 21, 2010, on Saipan.

Detective Sean White stated in his report that a cooperating source had disclosed that Maratita has been selling "ice."

Using the cooperating source, detectives were able to buy from Maratita and Peter A. Sablan \$70 worth of "ice" in two separate operations on April 21, White said.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo sentenced him to three years in prison, all suspended except for 30 days, with credit for the two days he had already served in jail.

The judge ordered Maratita to begin serving the remaining 20 days starting July 19 at the Department of Corrections.

After completing his prison

The government and the Legislature were also urged to divert the \$5 million tobacco fund from the Public School System to the Fund and to stop the yearly \$20 million allocation to the Saipan Legislative Delegation.

Among the proposals considered doable is the suggestion to stop the government from renting and leasing office space so it could redirect the rent savings to the Fund.

The housing allowance being given to off-island hires could also be stopped.

It was also suggested that cover-over taxes due the CNMI should be remitted to the Fund to pay for the government's over \$280 million obligation.

Community members also believe that unfilled vacant government posts should be kept vacant and their allotted funds redirected to the Fund, while unexpended agencies' allotments should be redirected to the Fund every year to prevent the program's collapse.

The mandatory 1 percent OPA fee could also be redirected to the Fund, should there be excesses in OPA's budget needs.

The government should also create a CNMI lottery using cash register receipts that are issued and pre-numbered by the Division of Revenue and Taxation to induce and encourage customer policing of accurate tax reporting, which is nonexistent in today's voluntary reporting setup.

Retirees and community members also want the government to assign to the Fund all government-owned shares in the United Micronesian Develop-

ment Association and the Pacific Islands Development Bank.

Community members also said the Marianas Public Land Trust could purchase all residential loan portfolios from banks and restructure them at low interest rates to stimulate new lending and create a stable residential real-estate market conducive and at par with cost of living in the CNMI, generating additional interest income for the general fund that could be directed to the Fund.

These and all other proposals were presented to the board during its recent public hearing where the government and the Fund's five-point plan was discussed as a solution to the over \$281 million court judgment in June last year.

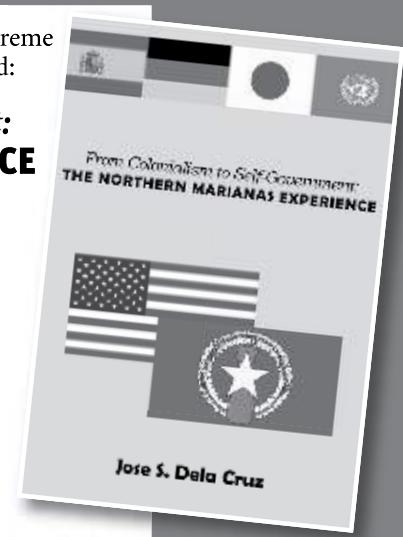
BOOK-SIGNING ANNOUNCEMENT

Jose S. Dela Cruz, retired chief justice of the CNMI Supreme Court, announces the publication of his new book titled:

From Colonialism To Self-Government: THE NORTHERN MARIANAS EXPERIENCE

A book-signing ceremony will be held on Saturday, July 10, 2010, at the American Memorial Park Visitor Center, at 10:00 o'clock in the morning.

Retired justice Dela Cruz will talk about his new book and the reasons for writing the book. He will then take questions from members of the audience present. Afterwards, copies of the book will be available for sale by the staff of the American Memorial Park Visitor Center. He will then make himself available for book signing.



The public is invited to attend. Light refreshments will be served during the book signing.

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Mayor's office seeks host families for Japanese exchange students

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Mayor's Office is looking for families who are interested in hosting Japanese students arriving on Saipan this month as part of a Japan-Saipan cultural exchange program.

The program, an annual activity between students of Saipan and Japan, allows students to experience each other's culture by staying with local families during their visit.

Throughout their stay, participants from Japan will explore the island and go sightseeing, enjoy Saipan's pristine beaches, and try different local delicacies.

In February, 13 students of Hopwood Junior High School's My Wave Club went to Japan and were accommodated by their Japanese host families.

This year's exchange program on Saipan will be participated by the KSKK group and the Sanpo-en group, according to Saipan Mayor's

Office staff Tina Pangelinan.

The KSKK group, composed of 10 students ages 8 to 12 years old and 1 chaperone, will stay on Saipan from July 24 to 31.

The Sanpo-en delegation is made up of 32 students ages 11 to 17 years old and will be accompanied by a high priest.

The Saipan Mayor's Office needs 11 families to host the KSKK students for six days while the Sanpo-en delegates require 16 families for two days.

Members of My Wave Club who participated in the cultural exchange program last February are encouraged to sponsor any student from the KSKK and the Sanpo-en groups.

Pangelinan urges community members to demonstrate island hospitality to these exchange students by taking part in this endeavor.

For more information, call the Saipan's Mayor Office at 234-6208 or 235-7304 and look for Tina Pangelinan or Carmen Maratita.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Tinian to start summer books and films series

The Tinian Public Library, Tinian Mayor's Office, and the NMI Council for the Humanities is inviting the Tinian community this Saturday to the launching of the first Saturday summer outdoor film, part of the Tinian Summer Books and Films Series.

The film shown will be *Bridge to Terabithia*, based on the 1977 novel by Katherine Paterson of the same title, starting at 7pm on Saturday, July 10, at the Kammer Beach Main Pavilion. The event is free and open to the public.

The community is invited to bring their own refreshments to enjoy, but not for sale. The community is urged strongly not to litter and to report anyone seen littering. Parents with young children and teenagers attending must ensure their own child's/teen's safety and knowledge of their whereabouts at all times, as this is not a chaperoned event. (PR)

Book launching set

Retired chief justice Jose S. Dela Cruz is inviting the CNMI public this Saturday to the launching of his new book, *From Colonialism to Self-Government: The Northern Marianas Experience*. The book launching will start at 10am on July 10 at the American Memorial Park.

Dela Cruz will talk about the key points discussed in the book and will respond to questions from the audience afterwards. He will then be available for anyone who want their copies of the book autographed. Those who want to buy a copy of the book can do so at the venue. Refreshments will be provided to guests. (PR)

NMC extends alumni survey deadline

The Northern Marianas College is inviting all 2009 graduates to participate in an online survey that will help the college track and measure graduates' educational pursuits and employment since graduation.

The deadline to fill the survey has been extended to July 18, 2010. The college will be using the collected data to improve its programs in order to better meet the educational and workforce needs of the community.

To access the survey, contact NMC institutional researcher Lisa Hacsaylo at 234-5498 ext. 1029 or lisah@nmcnet.edu, or NMC Alumni president Jack Kiyoshi at Ext. 1021 or jackk@nmcnet.edu. (NMC)

Calling on all court translators, interpreters

The CNMI Superior Court is in the process of updating its list of translators and interpreters. If you are on the Superior Court list or interested in becoming one, you will need to go to the Office of the Clerk of Court and pick up an application form. Application processing is free. Bring a copy of your photo ID. For more information contact Elsa Duenas-Nieto at 236-9765 or Julie Ilo at 236-9774. (PR)

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Social

Children with autism may:

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- Not babble and coo by 12 months
- Not respond to their name by 12 months
- Use few or no gestures (e.g., does not wave goodbye, point, etc.) by 12 months
- Not play "pretend" games (pretend to "feed" a doll) by 18 months
- Avoid eye contact
- Avoid other people and prefer to play alone
- Prefer not to be held or cuddled
- Have delayed speech and language skills.

Behavioral

Children with autism may:

- Be very organized (e.g., line up toys or other objects)
- Get upset by minor changes
- Have odd movement patterns (e.g., flaps hands, rocks body, or spins self in circles)
- Have frequent temper tantrums
- Be overly active
- Purposely hurt themselves
- Repeat words or actions over and over
- Look at objects from unusual angles.

Other areas

Children with autism often:

- Are overly sensitive to touch, sounds, taste or smells
- Lack fear in dangerous situations
- Have an intense need for routines
- Have learning difficulties
- Lose skills they once had (for instance, stop saying words they were using).

If you have concerns about your child's development, contact your baby's doctor or call the Children's Developmental Assistance Center at **664-4830** for a free developmental screening.

Children with autism can learn, grow and succeed.

Early action is the key!



Information adapted from the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, Learn the Signs. Act Early. Supported in part by project H25MC06112 from the MCHB (Title V, Social Security Act), HRSA, DHHS.

Kilili: Maximum Pell grant scholarship increases to \$5,550

U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) announced yesterday that the maximum for Pell Grant scholarships for college students is increasing to an all-time high of \$5,550, effective this month.

The maximum will continue rising annually—to \$5,975 by 2017—to keep up with the rising costs of college. The increase is a result of the health care reform and budget reconciliation legislation Congress passed in March.

"This is another important step toward making college affordable and accessible," said Sablan.

"College tuition just keeps going up. So we have to make sure Pell Grants keep up with those rising costs and give some much-needed relief to families that are struggling to provide a better future for their children."

Pell grants are generally available on a sliding scale to undergraduate students from low to moderate-income households.

The House Committee on Education and Labor, of which Sablan is a member, estimates that college students in the Northern Marianas will see an additional \$4.4 million in Pell Grants over the next decade as a result of the changes in the law. More students will also be able to receive the grants due to an increased amount of funding available.

The scheduled funding increases will continue until 2017, and from there the maximum grant amount will be pegged to the Consumer Price Index to ensure that student aid keeps up with rising prices.

In addition to the increased scholarship aid, there are changes coming into effect this month that will make federal student loans more affordable. Interest rates will drop from 5.6 percent to 4.5 percent this month.

"Education can be expensive, but it is also one of the best investments families and individuals can make," said Sablan. "So, we want to be sure that paying for college doesn't mean putting students and their families over their heads in debt."

Starting in 2014, new borrowers who are eligible for the Department of Education's Income-Based Repayment Program will have their federal student loan payments capped at 10 percent of their discretionary income to ensure the payments are manageable. After 20 years of repayment, the balance of federal student loans will be forgiven.

The funding for these improvements comes from originating new student loans directly with the U.S. Department of Education and eliminating the subsidies paid to banks and other private lenders

to make these loans.

"One of the reforms in the reconciliation bill we passed this spring gets rid of the middleman in the student loan program," Sablan said.

"By doing away with these subsidies, the federal government saves about \$61 billion over the next 10 years. That makes it possible to increase Pell grants and lower the cost of borrowing for college, helping students and families make ends meet while in-

vesting in education," he added.

H.R. 4872, the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act, passed as part of the legislative package that included health care reform and was passed earlier this year. No Republicans voted for the improvements in aid for students.

"The Pell grant and student loan provisions all began in the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act of which I was one of 22 original co-sponsors," Kilili noted.

"That bill, H.R. 3221, passed the House in September, but the Senate wasn't moving on it.

"Not giving up and continually looking for ways to use the legislative process to achieve your goals is key to succeeding in Congress," Kilili noted.

"So we rolled most of the important provisions into the H.R. 4872, the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act. And that bill became law in March." (PR)

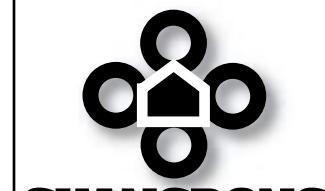


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Endangered Guam kingfishers in zoos struggle to survive

By WILLIAM MULLEN
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CHICAGO—A mated pair of Guam Micronesian kingfishers, one of the most severely endangered animal species in the world, laid two fertile eggs this spring deep inside a hollowed-out palm log in a special breeding room of the Lincoln Park Zoo bird house. Keepers promptly stole one of the eggs.

The parents incubated and hatched one egg in the hollow log June 3 and now rear the chick there. The other egg hatched June 5 inside an incubation machine in a lab, where the chick now lives, fed by keepers from tweezers protruding beneath the beak of an over-sized kingfisher hand puppet.

Taking the second egg is standard procedure in 20 American zoos that for 25 years have

struggled to save the bird from extinction. Guam kingfisher pairs often lay two eggs. In nature the stronger of the two kingfisher chicks almost always kills its nest sibling, either by violence or simply by out-competing the other one for food, starving it to death.

When there are only 132 individuals of a bird species left in the world, biologists want to hatch every fertile egg laid. Lincoln Park's successfully hatched Guam kingfisher chicks represent the 133rd and 134th living members of their species.

In 1985, a consortium of U.S. zoos went to Guam, the U.S.-owned Pacific island protectorate, to capture the island's last 29 wild native kingfishers—brilliantly colored blue and orange, robin-sized birds—to start a captive breeding rescue effort.

Shortly after World War II, an

invasive species of brown tree snakes crawled aboard an ocean freighter at some South Seas island port and crawled off in Guam. With no natural enemies, the snake soon established itself and ended up exterminating many of the island's native bird species.

"Nobody had ever studied the life cycle of wild kingfishers on Guam before they began to disappear," said Megan Ross, Lincoln Park's vice president for animal collections, explaining the difficulty of trying to create optimal conditions for the birds to reproduce and thrive in captivity.

By the 1990s, the zoos had about 60 of the birds, but, despite a relatively rapid hatch rate, many mysteriously died as young adults in the 2- to 4-year-old age range. The population remained at that level until the last few years, when growing knowledge improved their care of the bird,



The Guam Micronesian kingfisher is one of the most severely endangered animal species in the world.

said Beth Bahner, the American Zoo and Aquarium Association's species survival coordinator for the Guam kingfisher.

Among the key improvements, she said, were realizing that the meat-eating kingfishers had to have lizards in their diet, not just insects and chopped-up mice, and perfecting hand-rearing processes.

"We keep a towel draped over the brooder machine to keep it dark inside and simulate the dark nest cavity the parent-reared chicks are raised in," said Elizabeth Andersen, zoological manager at Lincoln Park's bird house.

"When it comes time to feed it, we turn off the room lights and turn on one inside the machine so that the bird can't see our faces and imprint on us. If the

first animal it sees after opening its eyes is a human, it will think it is human and will have trouble the rest of its life identifying with other kingfishers."

Several days ago the hand-reared chick was still too young to have opened its eyes. Keeper Giana Giffre opened the brooder door and found it sitting in a toilet-paper-padded cup as she reached in with a tweezersful of chopped mouse and lizard meat and bits of mealworm and crickets.

She tapped the chick's closed bill with the tweezers, as a parent would with its bill, and the chick gulped the food.

"We feed it roughly half its body weight each day," Giffre said. She used the hand puppet kingfisher head, which was sculpted by another keeper.

The chick will remain in the darkened brooder until it is about 35 days old and has all its feathers, Andersen said. That's when they naturally leave their darkened nests, soon left alone as the parents go into a new breeding cycle.

Getting a male and female to breed is more complicated than simply putting them together, Ross said.

"Sometimes they just don't like each other and become very aggressive," she said. "Some are what we call 'roommates.' They get along beautifully, but their relationship never gets beyond friendship."

Lincoln Park, which joined the zoo consortium in 1995, has had 40 fertilized Guam kingfisher eggs, Bahner said, a good record. Brookfield Zoo, which was in the consortium from the start, has had 64 fertilized eggs.

The goal is to put captive-bred birds back in the wild, though that may be impossible for the foreseeable future on Guam, where a few mating pairs are held in a well-protected captive breeding center. Millions of brown tree snakes still live on the island, defying all efforts to eradicate them.

"Releasing the Guam kingfishers on Guam will have to remain in the distant future," Bahner said. "But in the meantime, we might find another suitable island to let them go wild."

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Information adapted from the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, Learn the Signs. Act Early. Supported in part by project H25MC06112 from the MCHB (Title V, Social Security Act), HRSA, DHHS.

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Printing funded by the Cooperative Agreement for Early Hearing detection and Intervention (EHDI) Tracking, Surveillance, and Integration.

Climate change task force sets Honolulu meeting

» Live satellite broadcast to Guam, A. Samoa, CNMI

HONOLULU, Hawaii—Obama administration officials will hold a public meeting of the Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 9, 2010.

The meeting provides an opportunity for senior members of the Obama Administration to hear local and regional ideas, questions and concerns about climate change impacts in Hawaii and the Pacific and to describe federal planning efforts already underway.

The meeting will be webcast live at <http://wh-ceq.tipg.net> and <http://www.wh-ceq.tipg.net> and via satellite to Guam, American Samoa, and the CNMI.

Interested viewers in the CNMI may see the live broadcast at PSS NOC on July 10, 2010, 9am to 12:30pm. Contact person is Reynaldo Susulin at (670) 237-3039.

In Guam, the live broadcast may be viewed at the University of Guam SCI 120 (July 10, 2010, 9am to 12:30pm).

Meeting participants include Dr. Larry Robinson, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and deputy administrator of NOAA; Robyn Thorson, regional director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Region; and Deanna Spooner, coordinator, Pacific Islands Climate Change Cooperative.

In 2009, the White House Council on Environmental Quality, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and the

CUC sets three power outages on Kiya 1

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has scheduled three power outages throughout the upcoming weekend on Kiya 1 to allow Kimco Enterprises to continue with the relocation of power poles on Isa Drive.

This project is part of the ongoing Cross Island Road Expansion Project.

The power pole relocations have been completed and the high voltage primary conductors are scheduled to be transferred this weekend to the new power poles, requiring the power outages to ensure safety to the linemen.

The areas to be affected are as follows:

- July 9, 2010: 1pm - 4pm, San Vicente (Former Round House) to Dandan (Jin Market)
- July 10, 2010: 10am - 1pm, San Vicente (former Round House) to Botanical Garden
- July 11, 2010: 1pm - 4pm, San Vicente (former Round House) to Botanical Garden

CUC apologizes for any inconvenience the scheduled power outages may impose on the community and its consumers and will continue to work diligently to minimize future interruptions. (CUC)

\$500,000 for Rota gym earmarked in FY11 appropriation

A total of \$500,000 for the Rota gym has been recommended as a congressionally directed appropriation, or "earmark," in the coming fiscal year, according to U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP).

On July 1, the Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development marked up its fiscal 2011 bill and included funds for renovations to the gymnasium at Sablan's request. The Subcommittee mark-up now moves to the full House Appropriations Committee for approval before going to the floor for a House vote.

"The Subcommittee action is just the first step in the formal legislative process that will eventually appropriate all of the Federal Government spending for the fiscal year beginning October 1," said Sablan. "But, of course, I was very encouraged that Chairman Olver and the rest of the Subcommittee members honored the request to provide funding for the Rota gymnasium. As Rota residents know well, repairs and renovation of the gym are severely needed."

Sablan won seven earmarked appropriations for the Northern

Mariana Islands last year, his first in Congress. The earmarks were worth \$1.35 million.

"The \$500,000 earmark for the Rota gymnasium, which the Subcommittee is recommending, is twice as much money as our largest earmark last year," he said. "Last year's largest earmark was \$250,000 for the Chamorro and Rafa'wasch language programs at the Public School System."



Sablan

The gymnasium funds would be awarded to the Rota Municipality. The grant would be governed by the terms of the Economic Development Initiative program and overseen by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Sablan began the FY 11 earmark process over seven months ago. He solicited requests for funding needs from local organizations and government agencies in December 2009. After working with the groups to refine their proposals, Sablan submitted the congressional requests to the Appropriations Committee in March 2010.

"The Rota gymnasium project was actually suggested to us by the Rota Legislative Delegation and Rota Leadership. Our local congressional office on Rota also told me that conditions are so poor they have to run an extension cord from the high school cafeteria to the gym so it can be used for school activities, I knew we had to do something. So I submitted the request on behalf of the Rota Municipality."

The facility is the only public gymnasium on Rota. It was built in 1988 and is located on the campus of Rota High School. It is used by elementary, middle and high school students for physical education and indoor sports activities.

The gym is also used by the public and hosts several local sports leagues.

Over the years, however, the gym fallen into disrepair. Yet, despite its unsafe condition, it is still in daily use, because there is no alternative facility on the island of Rota.

"The restrooms, shower

rooms, offices and plumbing and electrical systems need repairs. Floor tiles, paint, lockers, bleachers, lighting, doors and equipment also all need to be replaced," Sablan said.

He said he was grateful to Appropriations Committee chair David Obey and Subcommittee chair John Olver for their positive response to the needs of Rota.

"I credit this positive action by the Subcommittee not only to the good working relationship I have been able to establish with the chairmen, and with Rep. Mike Honda, Rep. Jose Serrano, and other members of the Subcommittee, but also to the importance and validity of the proposal for Rota."

While having the funding request in the Subcommittee markup is a major step in the process of attaining congressionally directed spending items, there are still no guarantees. The Subcommittee action was only the first formal step in a long process of legislative procedures. Next for the appropriation is approval by the full Appropriations Committee, which usually occurs before the August congressional recess. (PR)

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Island Snapshots



CLARISSA DAVID

Members of the Saipan Falun Dafa Association perform during the Liberation Day parade on July 4, 2010.



CLARISSA DAVID

The Chinese Association of Saipan performs a dragon dance number during the Fourth of July festivities.



CLARISSA DAVID

Members of the Rollers Basketball Club participate in the 2010 Liberation Day parade.



CLARISSA DAVID

NMIFA members hold a replica of the World Cup trophy during the Liberation Day parade.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday greetings go out to Chris "Charisma" Cabrera. Have an awesome one! Good luck on your new journey and wishing you more blessings. We love you! Greetings come from your favorite people in the whole world and the Glitterati family.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday greetings go out to Angela "Mamma" Santos! Greetings come from MG Corp.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Advanced happy birthday greetings go to Barney "Swagger Bear" Travilla. "We hope you enjoy yourself in the Philippines and take care out there! See you when you come back. Swagg's on check! We love you beary much!"



BOOK DONATIONS

Library Council member Herminia Fusco, center, poses with Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan and some 1,500 books that the congressman donated to the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in Susupe in a brief ceremony Wednesday. Sablan's office collected these new books from the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. An estimated 600 other books are also bound for Tinian. At left is Library Council member Paz Younis.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Business

Enviro groups stunned that govt ignoring 27K wells

By JEFF DONN and MITCH WEISS
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITERS

Leading environmental groups and a U.S. senator on Wednesday called on the government to pay closer attention to more than 27,000 abandoned oil and gas wells in the Gulf of Mexico and take action to keep them from

leaking even more crude into water already tainted by the massive BP spill.

The calls for action follow an Associated Press investigation that found federal regulators do not typically inspect plugging of these offshore wells or monitor for leaks afterward. Yet tens of thousands of oil and gas wells are

improperly plugged on land, and abandoned wells have sometimes leaked offshore too, state and federal regulators acknowledge.

Melanie Duchin, a spokeswoman with Greenpeace, said she was "shell-shocked" by the AP report and upset that government wasn't "doing a thing to make sure they weren't leaking."

Toyota adding more time to new vehicle development

TOYOTA, Japan (AP)—Toyota Motor Corp. is extending the time it takes to develop new vehicles by about four weeks for more quality checks in the wake of its massive safety-related recalls, a top executive said Wednesday.

Executive Vice President Takeshi Uchiyamada said the

company has learned a lot from its recalls of more than 8.5 million vehicles worldwide, including the need to slow the pace at which it develops new cars.

It currently takes Toyota about 24 months on average to bring a new vehicle to market in Japan, Uchiyamada said. The time varies somewhat in

other markets, including the U.S. Uchiyamada, one of Toyota's highest-ranking officials who is considered the father of the automaker's popular Prius hybrid, made the remarks during a press event with U.S. media at the company's headquarters in its namesake city in central Japan.

Heat tests improved grid, and it appears to pass

NEW YORK (AP)—Well before the brutal peak of this week's East Coast heat wave, utility managers watched as overwhelmed circuits in New York shut down one by one. Hundreds of homes in Queens went dark.

The city turned to a wholesale power market upstate to buy extra energy, at peak prices, to keep the air conditioners humming. By the end of the day, all

but about 25,000 of Consolidated Edison's 9 million customers still had power.

The balancing act has played out up and down the East Coast during a vicious stretch of hot weather that has presented the electricity grid with one of its toughest tests since a massive blackout in 2003. For the most part, it has held up.

"I can't sit here and say there's never going to be another blackout," said Gerry W. Cauley, president of the North American Electric Reliability Corp. "But we're much better prepared."

Utilities and regulators credit reforms and upgrades put in place after the 2003 outage, which left tens of millions of people without power in the Northeast and parts of Canada.

Of 50,000 wells drilled over the past six decades in the Gulf, 23,500 have been permanently

abandoned. Another 3,500 are classified by federal regulators as "temporarily abandoned," but some

have been left that way since the 1950s, without the full safeguards of permanent abandonment.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Obama bypasses Senate for new Medicare chief

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama bypassed the Senate Wednesday and appointed Dr. Donald Berwick, a Harvard professor and patient care specialist, to run Medicare and Medicaid. The decision to use a so-called recess appointment to install Berwick as administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services drew immediate fire from the GOP. Republicans have raised concerns about Berwick's views on rationing of care and other matters and said it was wrong for Obama to go around the normal Senate confirmation process. That view was echoed by a key Democratic committee chairman, although the recess appointment is a tool used by presidents of both parties. Berwick has wide support in the medical community but some Democrats feared the GOP would use his confirmation hearings as an opportunity to

reopen last year's divisive health care debate. Obama defended the decision to appoint Berwick and two other officials, one to a pension board and the other to a White House science post.

Veggie prices likely to rise after plants poisoned

ADELAIDE, Australia (AP)—Was it a competitor or just a vandal who poisoned 7 million vegetable plants at a seedling nursery in Australia? The sabotage—estimated at a loss of 23.5 million Australian dollars (\$20.3 million)—could more than double produce prices across the country due to decreased supply. About 4 million tomato seedlings were poisoned, as well as bell peppers, melons and eggplant. The region of Bowen, in northern Queensland state, grows the majority of Australia's winter vegetables. Police investigations found that a herbicide was introduced in late June into the irrigation system of the Supa Seedlings nursery, which sells

its seedlings to farmers for planting. Workers noticed the wilting and dying plants between June 20 and June 25.

Mortgage applications rise 7 pct. as rates fall

WASHINGTON (AP)—Applications for home loans rose last week as consumers raced to refinance at the lowest rates in decades. The Mortgage Bankers Association said Wednesday that overall applications increased nearly 7 percent from a week earlier. While they have been increasing in recent weeks, they remain below early 2009 levels. Applications to refinance home loans were up 9 percent to the highest level since May 2009. But new mortgages taken out to purchase homes fell 2 percent. Those applications have fallen in eight out of the last nine weeks, after government tax credits that spurred home sales ended on April 30. Applications were 35 percent below last year's levels.



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Nation

Cold War remix: Spy suspect swap appears in works

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. and Russian officials met secretly on two continents Wednesday in a likely prelude to one of the largest swaps of accused spies in decades, a Cold War remix showing the high-stakes race for covert intelligence between East and West endures in the new century.

Five suspects charged with spying in the U.S. were hurriedly ordered to New York, joining five others already behind bars there, after a Russian arms-control researcher convicted of spying for the West came out of the cold of his forlorn penal colony by the Arctic Circle and was transferred to Moscow.

Researcher Igor Sutyagin signed a confession even while continuing to assert his innocence, his brother said, describing that event as one in a series laying the groundwork for Russia to release him and others accused of espionage in exchange for members of an alleged spy ring broken in the U.S.

Officials in neither country would confirm a swap was in the works. But the machinations—including a meeting in Washington between U.S. officials and the Russian ambassador—had all the hallmarks as the two former Cold War antagonists moved to tamp down tensions stirred by the U.S. arrests.

The trade could be the largest since 25 prisoners in Poland and East Germany and four in the United States were exchanged in 1985, the convicted or accused spies leaving their captors on the Glienecke Bridge between East Germany and West Berlin in the waning years of the Soviet bloc.

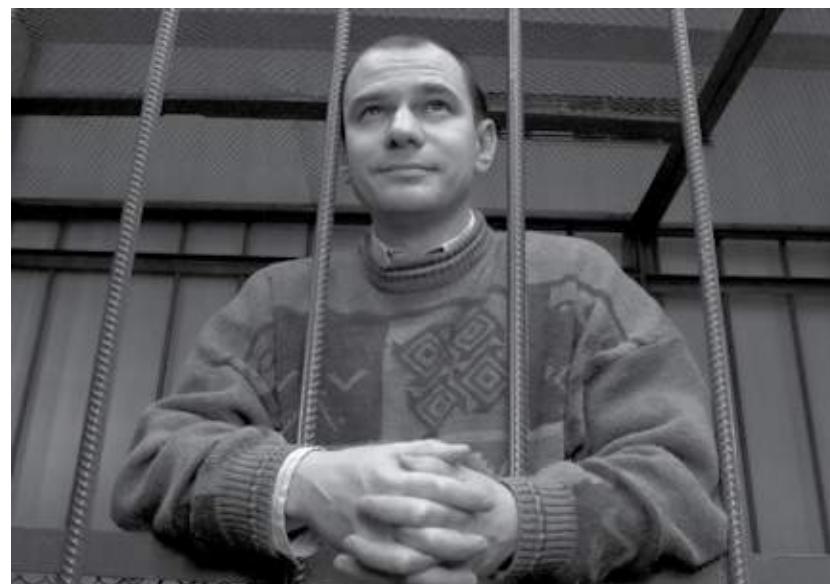
More triple-digit heat brings misery to the East

NEW YORK (AP)—It's blistering. Scorching. Steamy. Brutal. Baking. Torrid. Ovenlike. It's run-out-of-adjectives hot. "A volcano—that's what it feels like to me," said Wayne Reid, mopping his brow and swigging bottled water after walking three blocks to a New York subway station Wednesday morning. He was dressed for the heat—already a sticky 90 degrees and headed into triple digits—in shorts and a tank top, but it didn't matter.

"You could run butt-naked out there and still be hot," he said.

Heat waves are more oppressive in big cities, because concrete, asphalt and steel absorb more solar energy during the day and are slow to release it after the sun goes down, offering people little relief at night.

In the nation's biggest city of them



In this Wednesday, April 7, 2004 file picture, Russian arms control researcher Igor Sutyagin stands behind bars as he listens to the verdict as he is sentenced to 15-years in prison for spying, at a courtroom in Moscow.

In one of the most famous swaps, downed U.S. U-2 spy plane pilot Francis Gary Powers was exchanged for accused KGB spy Col. Rudolph Abel in 1962.

In Russia, Dmitry Sutyagin said his brother, serving a 14-year prison term, was told he was among convicted spies who were to be exchanged for Russians arrested by the FBI. He said his brother could be taken to Vienna, then London, for his freedom as early as Thursday.

The imprisoned Sutyagin said Russian officials had shown him a list of 11 people who could be included in the swap. His brother said Sutyagin remembered only one other person

on the list—Sergei Skripal, a colonel in Russian military intelligence who in 2006 was sentenced to 13 years on charges of spying for Britain.

Sutyagin said he had been forced to sign a confession, although he maintains his innocence and does not want to leave Russia, his homeland, his brother said.

"For him this all was a huge shock, totally unexpected," his brother said at a news conference. "For the first time in all these years I see him so depressed. He is mostly upset because of two things: He had to sign that paper, basically admit his guilt, and that he has to leave the country."

"When I get up, I feel like I could shower all the time," Jeffrey Boone said Wednesday as he walked to a gym from his un-air-conditioned Manhattan apartment. He has a window fan, but it is not up to the task of 80-degree nights or triple-digit days.

"What can we do? We survive," said Boone, a security guard.

We also deploy umbrellas as parasols, run in sprinklers set up in parks, walk out of our way to stay on the shady side of the streets, hover by office-building doors where blasts of cooled air occasionally escape, and even appreciate the wind that signals the approach of a subway train. And wear our sweat with sangfroid.

all, Wall Streeters are sweltering in business suits on subway platforms, senior citizens are schlepping to the grocery store on streets that seem like frying pans, and New Yorkers overall are handling it by doing what they do best: coping, with a little complaining thrown in.

Not that New Yorkers, on the fourth day of a record-breaking heat wave stifling much of the Eastern Seaboard, were suffering alone.

With triple-digit highs recorded from New York to Charlotte, N.C., roads buckled, nursing homes with air-conditioning problems were forced to evacuate, and utilities called for conservation as the electrical grid neared its capacity.

New York, where many buildings predate the age of climate control and many people don't have cars, is not for

the faint of hot. The mercury hit 100 by 3 p.m. Wednesday after topping out at 103 on Tuesday.

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home have been arrested in Nevada, authorities said Wednesday. Lt. Lari Sevone of the El Paso County, Colo., sheriff's department said Hanif Sims and his girlfriend, Monique Lynch, were in custody in Henderson, Nev. She said investigators had just learned of their arrest and had few details. Sims is the father of 9-year-old Genesis Sims, whose body was found May 14 in the crawl space of a vacant town house in Monument, about 50 miles south of Denver. Construction workers doing renovations found the body. Authorities said Tuesday that tests showed the body was that of Genesis,

Groups launch effort to change campaign money law

WASHINGTON (AP)—Two groups that have long advocated public financing of elections plan to spend at least \$8 million this year to prod Congress to vote on proposed legislation aimed at reducing the influence of big donations in politics.

The joint effort by Common Cause and Public Campaign, called the Campaign for Fair Elections, will launch its first wave of advertising this week aimed primarily at Democrats who have yet to sign on in support of the bill.

The legislation would give candidates \$4 of public financing for every \$1 dollar raised through contributions of \$100 or less. Participation would be voluntary, and candidates could opt out from the system.

Advocates hope the matching money would be so attractive that it would discourage politicians from having to chase big financial contributions from special interest donors.

Proponents estimate the public infusion of money would cost up to \$1.8 billion for every two-year election cycle. David Donnelly, the campaign manager for the Campaign for Fair Elections, said one way to pay for the cost would be with a tax or fee on large government contractors.

The Common Cause-Public Campaign coalition will air ads in television markets in Seattle, Denver, Tallahassee and Washington D.C. and are intended to win the support of Demo-

ON THE NET

<http://campaignmoney.org>

crats such as Jay Inslee, Rick Larsen and Brian Baird of Washington, Diana DeGette and Ed Perlmutter of Colorado, and Allen Boyd of Florida. More ads in other markets are planned later, Donnelly said.

So far, the legislation has 157 co-sponsors, all but three of them Democrats—not enough to guarantee passage. Prospects are tougher in the 100-member Senate, where major legislation typically requires 60 votes. The bill only has 21 Senate co-sponsors.

Donnelly and Bob Edgar, a former congressman and now president and CEO of Common Cause, said anti-Washington sentiment, bank bailouts and the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico make the timing ripe to shake up how politicians raise money.

"Democrats and Republicans who are strongest on reform will buffer themselves against anti-incumbent anger," Edgar said.

Donnelly said the joint campaign expects to spend between \$8 million and \$15 million this year to promote the legislation. He said \$2.5 million of that amount has already been spent.

Among those financing the effort is Arnold Hiatt, the former CEO of Stride Rite Corp. and major Democratic Party contributor who earlier this year urged other big political donors to give only to candidates who committed to support the legislation.

Arrest made in LA serial killing of 10 people

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A one-time police garage attendant suspected of killing 10 people and stumping detectives for more than two decades was finally arrested Wednesday after police used DNA from his son to track him down.

Lonnie Franklin Jr., 57, was charged with 10 counts of murder, one count of attempted murder and special circumstance allegations of multiple murders that could make him eligible for the death penalty if convicted, District Attorney Steve Cooley said.

"Today is a good day," Donnell Alexander, the brother of victim Monique Alexander, said as he watched police activity outside the South Los Angeles house where the arrest was made earlier in the day.

Detectives have spent years investi-

gating slayings between 1985 and 2007 in which the killer targeted young black women and one man. The attacker was dubbed the "Grim Sleeper" because he apparently took a 14-year hiatus from his crimes, from 1988 to 2002.

The victims were shot, strangled or both, usually after some kind of sexual contact. Several were prostitutes.

Neighbors said Franklin talked openly about his encounters with local prostitutes, who he would often bring to a camper in his backyard. They also said he would show off nude photos he took of the women.

The break in the case came after Franklin's son was arrested and swabbed for DNA, said Alexander, who was given a briefing on the case by robbery-homicide detectives.

ACROSS THE NATION

1 worker killed in Ohio sauerkraut plant collapse

FREMONT, Ohio (AP)—A concrete roof partially collapsed Wednesday at a sauerkraut factory in northern Ohio, killing one worker and injuring three, authorities said. The roof collapsed as workers for B&W Welding were replacing support columns inside the small building at the Fremont Co., Police Chief Tim Wiersma said. Crews were still trying to remove the body of the man who died. His name wasn't immediately released. Todd Michael, 44, was trapped in the rubble

with his legs pinned for about four hours before he was rescued. Wiersma said he didn't know the extent of Michael's injuries but that it appears he will survive. While he was trapped, Michael told rescuers how to move the concrete and deal with the rubble, Wiersma said. "He was trying to save himself," he said. Michael was taken by helicopter to a hospital.

Couple sought in child's death arrested in Nev.

MONUMENT, Colo. (AP)—A couple who had custody of a girl whose body was found in a vacant Colorado

home have been arrested in Nevada, authorities said Wednesday. Lt. Lari Sevone of the El Paso County, Colo., sheriff's department said Hanif Sims and his girlfriend, Monique Lynch, were in custody in Henderson, Nev. She said investigators had just learned of their arrest and had few details. Sims is the father of 9-year-old Genesis Sims, whose body was found May 14 in the crawl space of a vacant town house in Monument, about 50 miles south of Denver. Construction workers doing renovations found the body. Authorities said Tuesday that tests showed the body was that of Genesis,

who had lived in the town house with Sims and Lynch.

Barge hits tourist duck boat in Philly; 2 missing

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—An amphibious sightseeing boat that stalled in the Delaware River was knocked over by an oncoming barge Wednesday, spilling 37 people overboard and leaving two passengers unaccounted for after a frantic rescue effort. The six-wheeled "duck boat" had driven into the water just after 2:30 p.m. and suffered a mechanical problem and a small fire, officials said. It was struck

about 10 minutes later by a barge used to transport sludge, then sank. Searchers were looking for a 16-year-old girl and a 20-year-old man believed to have been aboard the vessel, which can travel seamlessly on land and water, police Lt. Frank Vanore said. Several people went to hospitals, but there were no immediate reports of serious injuries. "It's remarkable that we're only looking for two people," Deputy Police Commissioner Richard Ross said. Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey said divers found the duck boat in water about 50 feet deep.

Asia

Army presence soars amid deadly Kashmir protests

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—India's regular army patrolled the violence-hit streets of Kashmir to enforce a round-the-clock curfew for the first time in two decades Wednesday after weeks of deadly unrest in the Muslim-majority region.

Anti-India protests have grown increasingly strident. Residents accuse government forces of killing at least 15 people in street demonstrations over the past month, including three on Tuesday—raising concerns the situation could spin out of control.

"We are out to give support to the state machinery. We are ready to move anywhere, anytime," Col. Vineet Sood, an army spokesman, said in the main city, Srinagar.

A separatist insurgency fighting for Kashmir's independence from Hindu-majority India or its merger with Muslim-majority Pakistan has been active since 1989, and tens of thousands have been killed in the conflict. But resistance is now principally through street demonstrations.

The Indian army is ubiquitous in Kashmir—a Himalayan region also claimed by Pakistan and divided by a heavily militarized frontier—but its operations are usually aimed at combating insurgents. Although it routinely conducts patrols, including in Srinagar, the army has not been used in crowd control since major street protests in 1990. While street unrest is common, such situations are typically managed by police and paramilitary troops.

On Wednesday, the army patrolled both Srinagar and the key town of Baramulla. Thousands of government forces put up road blocks and barbed wire, forcing people to stay indoors. Most streets were deserted. Schools, offices, shops and businesses were shut.

The All Parties Hurriyat Conference, an umbrella group of separatist groups, nonetheless called for more street protests.

In at least three places in Srinagar, small groups of protesters defied the curfew, carrying placards reading, "Go India, Go Back," and chanting pro-freedom slogans. Police and paramilitary troops fired tear gas shells to disperse the protesters who responded by throwing rocks at the troops, a police official said on condition of anonymity in line with department policy.

There were no immediate reports of any injuries.

Curfew passes were issued to reporters and photographers but were rejected by patrolling troops who snatched several cameras from journalists, according to Javed Dar, a local photographer.

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- Island Apparel
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- KSPN2/The Visitors Channel
- KZMI/KCNM
- Power 99/The Kat
- The Palms at Pau Pau

ASIA

Japan court convicts NZ anti-whaling activist

TOKYO (AP)—A Tokyo court on Wednesday convicted a New Zealand activist of assault and obstructing Japanese whaling ships in the Antarctic Ocean, and sentenced him to a suspended prison term.

Peter Bethune was also found guilty on three other charges: trespassing, vandalism and possession of a knife. He had pleaded guilty to all but the assault charge when his trial started in late May.

The court sentenced Bethune to two years in prison, with the sentence suspended for five years—meaning he will not be jailed.

The assault conviction was

for throwing bottles of rancid butter at the whalers aboard their ship, including one that broke and gave several Japanese crew members chemical burns.

Bethune, 45, climbed onto the Shonan Maru 2 in February from a Jet Ski to confront its captain over the sinking of a protest vessel the previous month. He slashed a protective net with a knife, which the court said he possessed illegally, to enter the ship.

The former activist for Sea Shepherd, a U.S.-based conservation group, was held on board the ship and arrested when it returned to Japan in March.

The group has been protest-

ing Japan's whaling for years, often engaging in scuffles with Japanese whalers. Sea Shepherd claims the research whaling mission, an allowed exception to an international whaling ban, is a cover for commercial hunting.

Judge Takashi Tawada said Sea Shepherd has been engaged in "acts of sabotage" against the whalers, and that the use of such violence should not be tolerated.

Bethune "assaulted the crew members and interfered with their mission and the impact was extremely serious," Tawada said. "His actions are based on his selfish beliefs."

Repeat of SKorea, US cyberattacks does no damage

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Hundreds of computers that caused a wave of outages on U.S. and South Korean government websites last July launched new attacks on the same sites, but no major damage was reported, police said Thursday.

More than 460 computers infected with malicious computer codes assaulted 25 websites, including that of South Korea's presidential Blue House, on Wednesday as they are programmed to attack every July 7, said Jeong Seok-hwa, a police officer handling investigations on the cyberattacks.

"But the attacks were so weak that there were no problems in accessing the sites," he said.

The malicious computer codes, called malware, are used in triggering so-called denial of service attacks, in which large numbers of computers try to connect to a site at the same time to overwhelm the server.

He said the most of the infected computers are in South Korea and others are traced to the U.S., Britain, China and Japan.

He also cautioned that there could be other attacks on Thursday and Friday.

The latest attack came a month after two South Korean

government websites were struck with denial of service attack that officials said was traced to China.

Last July, government websites in South Korea and the U.S. were paralyzed by cyber-attacks.

South Korean officials believed those attacks were conducted by North Korea, but U.S. officials have largely ruled out North Korea as the origin, according to cybersecurity experts.

Experts say there is no conclusive evidence that North Korea, or any other nation, orchestrated it.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Surrendered Filipino coup suspect says no regrets

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A rebel soldier who turned himself in to face charges stemming from two coup attempts in the Philippines against the former president said Thursday he had no regrets for his actions. Marine Capt. Nicanor Faeldon, who was accused of helping lead 300 soldiers in taking over the upscale Oakwood Hotel and a nearby shopping center in Manila in July 2003 and of fleeing a courtroom in 2007 while on trial, said he was turning himself in because the country had a new, legitimately elected president. "There is no reason for me to stay unaccountable now because we have a new government which has the mandate of the people," Faeldon told reporters after he was taken into military custody. "I cannot choose my own commander in chief. But in the case of the previous president, I am one of those who believe she doesn't possess the mandate of the people," he said. Faeldon went into hiding after he walked out of a court in November 2007 and along with other mutinous officers occupied a five-star Manila hotel to press their demand for former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's resignation. Faeldon and the others were on trial for a previous coup attempt in July 2003. The rebels denounced corruption in the government and the armed forces.

Japanese spacecraft may have dust from asteroid

TOKYO (AP)—Japanese scientists say they have detected tiny particles collected by the first spacecraft to return to Earth after landing on an asteroid. But determining if the dust came from the asteroid or was picked up by the spacecraft on its return trip could take months. Material found in the Hayabusa spacecraft's sample col-

lection compartments could offer insight into the creation and makeup of the solar system. The capsule landed successfully in the Australian Outback last month after a seven-year, 4-billion mile (6-billion kilometer) journey despite a series of technical glitches that raised worries that the mission could fail. Project chief Junichiro Kawaguchi said Wednesday a small number of mostly microscopic particles were found and dust from the asteroid was likely among them. But he said it was also suspected that contaminants from Earth may have been mixed in. "We need to determine their origin," he said, adding that could take months. Experts from NASA and Australia are also involved in the project.

British troops to withdraw from south Afghan area

LONDON (AP)—British troops will withdraw from a volatile district in southern Afghanistan where they have sustained nearly 100 deaths, turning over responsibility to U.S. forces, the country's defense secretary said Wednesday. Liam Fox told the House of Commons that U.S. Marines would replace British troops in the Sangin district of Afghanistan's southern Helmand province later this year. He said that, until the changes are made in October, Britain will bolster its 10,000-strong force in Afghanistan, temporarily deploying about 300 extra troops from a reserve battalion kept on standby in Cyprus. Under the new NATO plan, the U.S. will operate mainly in the north and south of Helmand, with British, Danish and Estonian troops working in the heavily populated central areas. The changes would mean Britain will provide "more manpower and greater focus for the key terrain of central Helmand" and simplify the command structure in northern Helmand, where Sangin is located, Fox said.

World

French court hands Noriega 7-year prison term

PARIS (AP)—A Paris court has convicted aging former Panamanian dictator Manuel Noriega of laundering drug money in France and ordered him to spend seven years behind bars—a decision that left friends and foes worried he might die in a prison far from home.

Wednesday's sentence in France, where Noriega was extradited 10 weeks ago, came on

top of his two decades already spent in a U.S. prison. The court said there was enough evidence to establish that the equivalent millions of euros that flowed through Noriega's French bank accounts in the late 1980s were kickbacks from drug traffickers.

For Noriega, who gives his age as 76 and is in poor health, the future is cloudy. Despite the seven-year sentence, he is likely



AP This May 1989 file photo shows General Manuel Antonio Noriega speaking to the press in Panama.

to be eligible for parole within a year. However, Panama is seeking his extradition from France on much more serious crimes, including the murder of political opponents.

"The government maintains its position that Panamanian citizen Manuel Antonio Noriega should complete the sentences handed down by Panamanian judicial authorities and confront pending processes in Panama," the Panamanian government said in a statement.

An extradition would require approval from a host of French judges and top officials, as well as from the United States, and a decision could take time. Noriega's lawyers say he wants to return home and will not fight an extradition.

They also raised fears he could die in a French prison—worries shared by Panamanians who fought against human rights abuses during Noriega's 1983-1989 regime. They want to see him face justice at home.

US reaches plea deal at Guantanamo military trial

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—One of the first terrorism suspects taken to Guantanamo Bay reached a plea deal Wednesday with military prosecutors, giving President Barack Obama's administration its first conviction of a prisoner at the detention center in Cuba that it is struggling to close.

Ibrahim Ahmed Mahmoud al-Qosi pleaded guilty to one count each of providing material support for terrorism and conspiracy at a hearing before

a military judge, sparing him from additional counts at trial.

Terms of the plea deal, including any limits on his sentence, were not publicly disclosed.

Al-Qosi—who has been held at Guantanamo since January 2002—is scheduled to be sentenced by a panel of officers in August. Military legal authorities can reject the panel's sentencing decision if it exceeds what was agreed upon as part of the plea deal, said Navy Capt. David Iglesias, a spokesman for military commissions

WORLD BRIEFS

Netanyahu expects direct Palestinian talks soon

NEW YORK (AP)—Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Wednesday he thinks direct talks with the Palestinians will begin very soon and he predicted they will be "very, very tough." Before flying to Washington for a meeting with President Barack Obama, Netanyahu told his Cabinet on Sunday that the "time has come" for Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas to get ready to meet directly with the Israelis "because there is no other way to advance peace." The Israelis and Palestinians have been holding indirect talks through George Mitchell, Obama's special envoy to the Middle East. Late last week, aides to Obama sounded a hopeful tone, telling reporters that weeks of shuttle diplomacy between the two sides had paid off and "the gaps have narrowed."

Mexico, Texas evacuate homes as Rio Grande floods

NUEVO LAREDO, Mexico (AP)—Reservoirs along the U.S.-Mexico border rose to their highest levels in decades after days of drenching rain, forcing officials to close two border bridges Wednesday, dump dam water into flooded rivers and evacuate tens of thousands from homes, with yet another storm on the way. The dramatic rise of the Rio Grande caused by Hurricane Alex and continuing rains forced the closure of one major border crossing between downtown Laredo, Texas, and Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, and another crossing

known as the Colombia Bridge, about 20 miles upriver. Officials evacuated the flood-threatened Vega Verde subdivision in Del Rio, Texas, some 110 miles (180 kilometers) upstream from Laredo, while high waters in the northern Mexican state of Coahuila have already damaged some 10,000 homes—many swamped in waist-deep water.

More than 50 killed in attacks across Baghdad

BAGHDAD (AP)—Militants struck across the Iraqi capital Wednesday, killing more than 50 people, including 32 in a suicide bombing that targeted pilgrims commemorating a revered Shiite saint, Iraqi police said. The attacks—the deadliest of which occurred in northern Baghdad's predominantly Sunni neighborhood of Azamiyah—offered a clear indication of the push by insurgents to exploit Iraq's political vacuum and destabilize the country as U.S. troops head home. Police said the bloody suicide bombing that killed 32 and wounded more than 90 people, split the hot Wednesday evening air as Shiite pilgrims were about to cross a bridge leading to the a shrine in the Shiite Kazimiyah neighborhood where a revered imam is buried. A 30-year-old Sunni resident of Azamiyah said he was drinking tea and watching pilgrims walk by when he and his friends heard the blast. "We heard a big explosion and everybody rushed to the site to see bodies and hear wounded people screaming for help," Saif al-Azami told The Associated Press.

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Mass. school janitor finds 3-foot python in locker

NEWTON, Mass. (AP)—A custodian cleaning out lockers at a Massachusetts high school was so shocked when a 3-foot-long snake fell at his feet that he didn't even think it was real. Ed Reardon tells The Daily News Tribune that at first he thought it was a change purse. Then he thought it was a rubber snake. Then it coiled into attack mode. Reardon didn't panic. He grabbed it behind the head as he had seen on nature TV shows. When he got off work at Newton North High School, he brought it to a local pet store, where workers identified it as a ball python. Reardon thinks a student left the snake in the locker at the end of school as a prank. He found a notebook in the same locker with a student's name on it, and turned it over to the principal.

Bad set of teeth end negotiations for sex in Fla.

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP)—A man went to the police after getting robbed by a woman he intended to pay for sex, but refused when she flashed a smile full of bad teeth. The man told investigators he and a 25-year-old woman were negotiating a price until he noticed her dental problems.

He told police that after he resisted, she snatched a checkbook containing \$78 from his shirt pocket and fled. The man told authorities the woman did not realize that he had tucked a wad of cash into her bra and that she got scared and ran away. The woman was arrested on a robbery charge. Gainesville police said it was unlikely the man would face misdemeanor charges for solicitation, because he was the victim of a felony.

Boy, 8, tells Minn. council: Crack down on crooks

BROOKLYN PARK, Minn. (AP)—Eight-year-old Logan Fisher is fed up with crime. And he's making sure the leaders of his Minnesota city know it. Logan was ticked because thieves broke into his Brooklyn Park home last month and stole thousands of dollars worth of electronics, not to mention his wallet filled with quarters. So the soon-to-be fourth-grader climbed a stool and took the podium at this week's City Council meeting. The Star Tribune reports he wrote out his speech in pencil, then had his mom type it up. He said, "We need to get mean and we need to mean it." Deputy Police Chief Craig Enevoldsen agreed with Logan on neighbors watching out

for neighbors and stepped up police patrols. But he said the boy's idea to put an armored SWAT vehicle on the streets to scare criminals away wasn't so practical.

Cops: Man holds his mom hostage for not ironing

VILLA RICA, Ga. (AP)—Authorities have charged a 29-year-old man with aggravated assault and false imprisonment after they allege he held his mother hostage for failing to iron his clothes. Carroll County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Marc Griffith said the man remained in jail Wednesday without bond. The unidentified woman was not harmed in the June 30 incident. Griffith said the man, who lives with his parents, wanted his mother to do some ironing because it was "woman's work." When she refused, authorities allege he pulled out a gun, and took his 51-year-old mother's keys and cellphones and refused to let her leave for at least six hours. She eventually escaped and went to a police station. Authorities were able to get the man out without incident.

Man arrested for allegedly growing pot in closet

RENO, Nev. (AP)—Sheriff's deputies responding to a dispute at a northern Nevada home said they discovered that a man sharing the house with his mother was growing marijuana plants in his closet. Washoe County Sheriff's Deputy Armando Avina said officers responded to a home late Friday to investigate a dispute between a woman and her son and smelled marijuana. Avina said deputies found three large marijuana plants, lamps and fertilizer. Twenty-six-year-old Travis Todd Fletcher was booked on Saturday into the Washoe County Jail on suspicion of cultivating marijuana, possession of marijuana with intent to sell and possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Oklahoma pharmacist takes sweet revenge on burglar

EDMOND, Okla. (AP)—Police said a local pharmacist gained a measure of revenge against a serial burglar in a sweet fashion. Police said they responded to an alarm at the Clinic Pharmacy on Sunday morning and found a window broken and four pill bottles of hydrocodone were missing. But they said the pharmacist told them that because of recent burglaries, he had filled the pill bottles with chocolate candy instead of the drug. Police said they don't have any suspects in the break-in.

Colombian cops find World Cup—made of cocaine



BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)—Fans worldwide have fashioned replicas of the World Cup trophy out of everything from papier-mache to plastic. But a lawbreaker in Colombia gets top prize for most original material: cocaine.

Airports anti-drug chief Col. Jose Piedrahita says that Colombian authorities found the unusual statue during a routine security check by anti-drug agents Friday in a mail warehouse at Bogota's international airport.

The 36-centimeter-high (14-inch-high) statue was inside a box headed for Madrid, Spain. The statue was painted gold with green stripes on the base.

Piedrahita said Saturday that laboratory tests confirmed the cup was made of 11 kilos (24 pounds) of cocaine mixed with acetone or gasoline to make it moldable.

In this photo released by Colombia's National Police is seen a seized replica of a World Cup soccer trophy, which according to authorities is made of cocaine, in Bogota, Friday July 2, 2010. AP

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Attorney for Marianas Public Land Trust

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, Plaintiff,	Civil Action No. 06-0331-CV
vs.	
DIEGO SN DELA CRUZ and LEOLANIE R. DELA CRUZ, Defendants.	NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on April 15, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in the following property: Lot No. 011 G 403, consisting of 858 square meters located in Kagman III, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

Located on the lot is a fully concrete, one bedroom, one bathroom house with an attached carport. House is approximately 10 years old, and in need of some repair. There are existing power and sewage hook ups.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on July 30, 2010, at the hour of 10:00 am, at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room (Old Election Commission Office), Capital Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

- a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
- b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
- c) To reject any and all bids.

2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kuya, PO Box 5003758 CK, Saipan, MP 9695, Phone: 670 234 7859; Fax: 670 234 5749.

3. Deposit: Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash or cashier's check. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Marianas Public Land Trust.

4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and the Marianas Public Land Trust reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 14th day of June, 2010.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres
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Attorney for Marianas Public Land Trust

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, Plaintiff,	Civil Action No. 06-0590-CV
vs.	
WILLIAM DLG ANGUL and JESSIE A. ANGUL, Defendants.	NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on April 15, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in the following property: Lot No. 011 G 1067, consisting of 841 square meters located in Kagman III, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

Located on the lot is a fully concrete, one bedroom, one bathroom house. House is approximately 10 years old, and in need of some repair. There are existing power and sewage hook ups.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on July 30, 2010, at the hour of 10:00 am, at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room (Old Election Commission Office), Capital Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

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- c) To reject any and all bids.

2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kuya, PO Box 5003758 CK, Saipan, MP 9695, Phone: 670 234 7859; Fax: 670 234 5749.

3. Deposit: Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash or cashier's check. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Marianas Public Land Trust.

4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and the Marianas Public Land Trust reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 14th day of June, 2010.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

REQUEST for PROPOSALS MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST RFP 10-02

INVESTMENT in a LOCAL HIGH YIELD LOAN PROGRAM

This is a request for any and all investment proposals from interested parties or firms seeking capital sources or funding for projects or ventures within the CNMI.

MPLT Board of Trustees has recently updated its Asset Allocation and determined that a percentage (5%) of its total investment portfolio (\$3.36 million) shall be devoted to a local investment program. This local investment program will be designated as high yield investments since the associated risks are much higher than those of publicly traded investment grade securities. The reasons for this are as follows:

- Challenges to obtaining sufficient capital for projects or ventures.
- Associated promissory notes cannot be traded or sold thus have no liquidity.
- Associated promissory notes are not rated and considered less than investment grade.
- Often the local private or public sector proposer's ability to repay the loan is challenged.
- Credit rating for such borrowers is often low.
- Ability to raise capital or obtain credit is limited.
- Maximum exposure for each investment cannot be controlled.
- Sufficient collateral beyond those acquired with loan proceed is limited.

As a high yield investment, MPLT may limit the duration for each investment to not more than five years. This is not a low-income or low interest rate program. Interest rates will be determined based upon risk and duration. Due to the higher risks associated with this type of investment, a risk premium will be added to the base interest rate.

Proposal information and guidelines under this program can be obtained at the MPLT office as shown below.

Five (5) copies plus one original of the sealed proposals must be submitted to the MPLT Office, 1313 Anatahan Drive, Capital Hill Saipan, MP 96950 no later than 2:00 PM, on August 25, 2010. Proposals must be sealed and marked "Local High Yield Loan Program, RFP 10-02". Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The MPLT reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so shall be in its best interests. All proposals shall become the exclusive property of the MPLT.

Phillip Mendiola-Long
Chairman

DATED this 14th day of June, 2010.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Science & Technology

Study: US mobile Web use growing, but still low

NEW YORK (AP)—When it comes to accessing the Web over mobile devices, Americans are far behind their Internet-connected counterparts in Japan, South Korea and parts of Europe.

"We are a third-world country where mobile is concerned. The rest of the world is using mobile phones underground, to pay for a parking space blocks away, to buy a Coke from a vending machine," said Jeffrey Cole, director of the Center for Digital Future at the University of Southern California. "We in America are still having trouble getting our phones to (make calls)."

But this is slowly changing. The latest survey from the Center for the Digital Future, conducted last year, found that 25 percent of U.S. Internet users went online using their cell phones. That is up from 16

percent in 2008 and 5 percent in 2002.

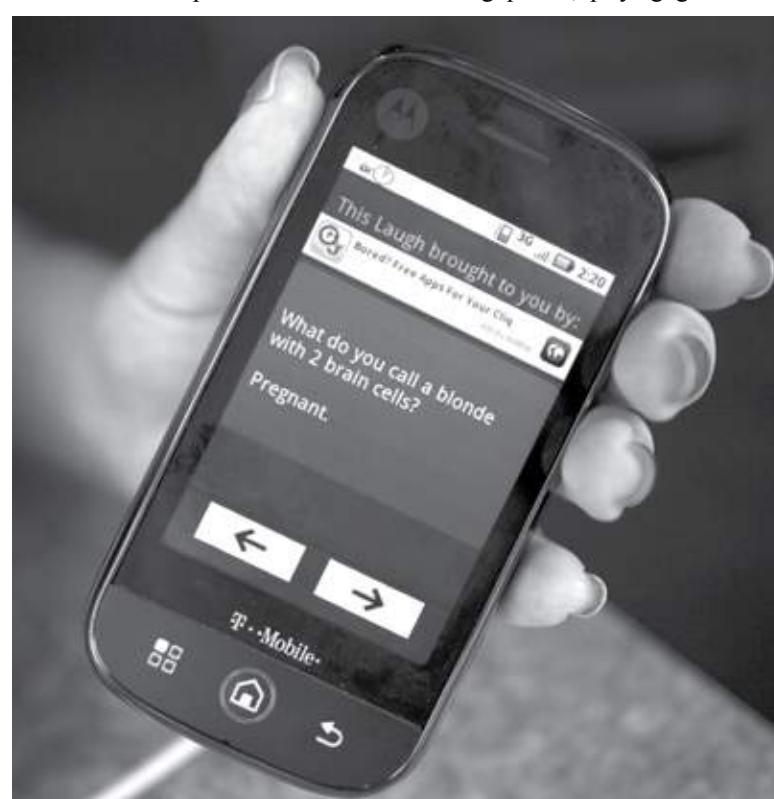
"The mobile phone is the single most valuable device in people's lives," Cole said. "It's becoming a device you use for virtually everything."

On average, people who go online using their cell phones did so for about 2.5 hours a week in 2009, up from 1.7 hours a year earlier. For most, this means getting small spurts of information, such as getting directions or checking who won a sports game, Cole said.

A separate study, from the Pew Internet & American Life Project, backs those findings. It found that 40 percent of U.S. adults used a mobile device to surf the Web, send e-mail or participate in instant messaging.

Those figures from May are up from 32 percent in 2009.

And more people reported taking photos, playing games and



PATRICK TEHAN/SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS/MCT

Beth Mezias displays an Android app that downloads jokes from a website while she has coffee at Red Rock Cafe in Mountain View, California, June 25, 2010.

YouTube wants viewers to 'leanback' stay longer

SAN BRUNO, Calif. (AP)—YouTube is trying to become as brainless and painless to watch as the boob tube. In the process, the Web's leading video site hopes to learn enough about its viewers to replace their remote control.

Those ambitions came into sharper focus Wednesday with debut of a YouTube format called "Leanback." The feature picks out high-definition clips most likely to command a person's attention and then automatically serves up one video after another.

YouTube, based in San Bruno, believes viewers will feel like they're watching television if they don't have to search the website for another clip every few minutes.

As it learns more about viewers' preferences, YouTube envisions a day when couch potatoes eventually won't need their remote controls because

Leanback will do all the work for them.

"We want to remove the 'What next?' question" for viewers, said Kuan Yong, Leanback's product manager.

YouTube previewed Leanback in late May when its owner, Google Inc., announced its plans for an Internet-focused TV. Wednesday marked the first time users were able to experiment with the concept. The feature will be among the options available on Google's Internet TVs when the Sony-made sets go on sale in the U.S. this fall.

Because Leanback still requires a Web browser to watch the high-definition video, YouTube expects most people initially will watch the format on their computers.

But YouTube is exploring ways to make it easier to bring Leanback to television screens. One obvious way would be

making Leanback available on Web-connected devices, including video game consoles, Blu-ray players and specialty gadgets such as the Roku player, that can be easily plugged into TVs. YouTube executives said they were talking to some makers of Web-connected devices, but didn't offer any details Wednesday.

Leanback is part of YouTube's effort to evolve from a mere Website into a "video operating system" that's as ubiquitous and as easy to use as TVs. That objective also motivated a Wednesday upgrade of YouTube's mobile website that's supposed to make watching video on the go more appealing and convenient.

Although YouTube serves up more than 2 billion videos worldwide, most people spend relatively little time on the site. By YouTube's calculations, it occupies about 15 minutes of

the average consumer's daily viewing time compared with five hours on TV.

Besides making its site easier to watch, YouTube has been trying to line up more compelling content from movie and TV studios to supplement the millions of kooky, amateur clips in its library. YouTube also offers a video rental option, but that might not be immediately available on Leanback.

Getting people to stick around longer would give YouTube more opportunities to sell more advertising and increase its revenue. Google doesn't disclose YouTube's financials, but Caris & Co. analyst Sandeep Aggarwal estimates the video site will bring in ad revenue of about \$525 million this year. That would account for about 2 percent of Google's projected ad revenue of more than \$27 billion.

CCleaner is one of the most respected programs, with nearly 4,000 people giving it an average rating of 4.5 stars (out of 5) on download.com. MalwareBytes is just as well-rated and even more popular, and Ad-Aware gets very good reviews and has hundreds of thousands of downloads.

Yet for some of you, these programs aren't helpful.

My husband experienced this. A couple of years ago, he downloaded Kaspersky, which was then the highest-rated antivirus software; people raved about it. But Kaspersky made his computer so slow he could

barely uninstall the program. So as with many things, finding a malware program that works is a matter of trial and error.

Our favorite is the free Microsoft Security Essentials. It identified a Trojan worm that came off my husband's thumb drive the other day, quickly quarantined it and got rid of it. The scans are quick, and it doesn't slow down computer startup.

You can find it at microsoft.com/security-essentials. It'll ask you to uninstall other antivirus software; go ahead and do so—you should never run more than one antivirus program at a time.

It appears that the readers who were told they must pay to use CCleaner were tricked into downloading rogue software masquerading as that program. This problem showed up on the CCleaner user forum over the winter, and geeks tracked the problem to a banner ad with a large "download" button right next to the legitimate download on a third-party download page.

Stump the Geeks: Good picks for antivirus, spyware

By Anne Krishnan
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

Not all antivirus and spyware solutions will work for every computer. Though a program will work brilliantly for one person, it will turn another person's computer into a brick.

I don't know why. I just know it's true.

I was reminded of this as numerous readers wrote in, complaining about the three free spyware/antivirus programs my geek recommended.

Yet each of these programs is extremely popular and well-regarded.

listening to music on their mobile devices compared with a year earlier, the Pew survey found.

Overall, Internet use continues to grow. Among other findings in USC's report, which is scheduled for release later this month:

■ Americans reported spending more time on the Internet. In 2009, time spent online averaged 19 hours a week, up from 9.4 hours in 2000.

■ More people are online than ever. In 2009, 82 percent of Americans said they use the Internet, up from 67 in 2000.

■ 18 percent of Internet users said they stopped subscribing to the print edition of a magazine

or newspaper because they can get the same content online.

■ Not surprisingly, texting is most popular among young people: cell phone users under 18 sent an average of 81 text messages each day. This is up from 51 in 2008. Counting all age groups, texters sent an average of 38 messages a day, up from 23 a year earlier.

USC's telephone survey of 1,981 Americans over 12 was conducted in April 2009 and has a margin of error of plus or minus 2.2 percentage points. Pew's survey of 2,252 U.S. adults, conducted in May, has a margin of error of plus or minus 2.4 percentage points.



Public Wi-Fi isn't safe for online banking

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q **QUESTION:** I have a Macbook Pro that I use when away from home. Would you consider it safe to use library and motel Internet connections to do online banking?—Gerry Sweet, Bloomington, Minn.

A **ANSWER:** I wouldn't do it because it's a huge risk.

Public Wi-Fi hotspots are good for Internet browsing, but not banking, because security is weak and even encryption (coding) is no guarantee of protection.

Public wired Internet connections have a certain unknown quality—you don't know who has access to the Web server you're using, and that should make you cautious.

But the wireless security issue is the most pressing one, if for no other reason than free Wi-Fi is proliferating in libraries, coffee shops and restaurants. In any of these places, it's possible for another computer user in the same Wi-Fi hotspot to snatch and read your unencrypted Wi-Fi messages as they move through the airwaves. Even encrypted wireless messages aren't safe from being decoded and read.

In addition, an unscrupulous person with the right software could use his or her computer to masquerade as the Wi-Fi hotspot, so that you'd actually be communicating with the thief instead of the public Wi-Fi. The thief could harvest your passwords, then gather even more personal information by passing you on to a phony banking website that looks exactly like the one you're trying to contact.

■ ■ ■
Q: I recently tested the data backup function of Windows Vista and discovered that it worked well. But it was just a test and now I want to delete the contents of the restore folder.

A: By denying you the right to delete your backup files, Vista is saying that "you aren't the boss of me"—even though you should be.

Why? To protect your PC from tampering, Windows Vista limits the ability of users to change settings. Only one person is the primary user who can control everything on the computer; everyone else who uses the PC is a secondary user with limited discretion. To become that primary user, you need to alter Vista's settings to give you both "ownership" of the files you want to delete and "administrator" status so you can delete them. The process to do that, which includes 30 steps, can be found at tinyurl.com/2df6rrnm. Follow the directions, and you'll be the undisputed boss of your PC.

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; e-mail: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.

Life & Style

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Never has so much attention been paid to a manicure. Less than 24 hours after Lindsay Lohan was sentenced to 90 days in jail and 90 days in rehab for violating probation on two DUIs, the talk isn't about her troubles, but about her fingernails.

The 24-year-old actress sported a colorful manicure in court Tuesday that included obscene messages on each of her middle fingers. Close-up photos taken by a courtroom photographer revealed the tiny letters, which made worldwide news Wednesday on entertainment websites.

Were the messages intended for the judge, who levied the harsh sentence Tuesday? Directives to the ever-present paparazzi who follow Lohan's every move? Perhaps a silent snub to her estranged father, who attended Tuesday's

Shawn Chapman Holley, who sat beside the actress during Tuesday's hearing, was in court Wednesday and not immediately available to comment on the naughty nails.

Ed McPherson, Lohan's civil attorney who attended Tuesday's hearing and sat near her in court during breaks, said he did not notice the message painted on her fingernails and does not think she meant to disrespect the court.

"Absolutely not," he said.

He said Lohan's tearful statement in court Tuesday was sincere.

"I think she thinks that she's come a long way," he said. "Obviously she's very upset about this."

The actress had some good news Wednesday: A probation report said her six drug screenings since May were clean of illicit drugs and alcohol. The reports showed the screenings occurred after the actress missed a court hearing and a judge imposed new restrictions, includ-



Lohan must wear an alcohol-monitoring anklet until she surrenders for jail later this month. After completing her time behind bars, she has two days to report to a probation officer to begin formal probation. She is also required to spend 90 days in an inpatient substance-abuse program.

The back-to-back sentences are likely to prevent Lohan from promoting her fashion line, 6126, which begins shipping out to stores this month, and the Robert Rodriguez movie "Machete," set to open in September. The sentence will also delay production of "Inferno: A Linda Lovelace Story," in which Lohan stars as the title character.

In this July 6, 2010 file photo, actress Lindsay Lohan, with profane language written on her middle fingernail, reacts after the sentencing by Superior Court Judge Marsha Reve during a hearing in Beverly Hills, Calif.

AP

Lindsay Lohan's manicure message gets attention

proceedings?

Lohan let her middle-finger messages speak for themselves until Wednesday afternoon, when she took to her Twitter account to clarify the purpose of the defiant digits.

"It had nothing to do w/court," Lohan wrote. "It's an airbrush design from a stencil."

Written expression on her hands is nothing new, though. Lohan also has a tattoo on her right index finger that reads "Shhh..."

Inscribing fingernails with messages is an emerging trend with the younger set, said celebrity manicurist Jenna Hipp, adding that she wrote a secret message beneath Gabourey Sidibe's manicure when the "Precious" star was preparing for the Oscars.

"Kids are just starting to play a little bit more with their fingernails," Hipp said. "Now with Lindsay doing it, of course, it's going to go crazy."

The look is easy to create at home, she said, with a Sally Hansen Nail Art Pen topped with a coat of clear polish.

Lohan's criminal defense attorney,

ing wearing an ankle alcohol monitor.

The report was released a day after the judge sentenced Lohan to 90 days in jail and a stint in rehab for missing court-mandated alcohol education classes.

The report showed Lohan was taking a variety of medications for which she had valid prescriptions, and their use did not constitute a probation violation.

In addition, the "Mean Girls" star got a reprieve Wednesday in another pending court case when a judge delayed a civil trial stemming from one of Lohan's 2007 arrests.

Her attorneys and four people suing her agreed to delay a trial scheduled for later this month, citing her upcoming jail sentence, which is set to begin July 20. No new date for the civil trial was set.

Lohan is being sued by a woman who was in a vehicle chased by the actress and three other men who claim Lohan involved them by taking a sport utility vehicle without permission.

Both sides have listed Lohan as a potential witness during the trial.

Report: Lohan drug tests were clean since May

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A probation report released Wednesday showed six drug screenings from Lindsay Lohan since May were clean of illicit drugs and alcohol.

The screenings occurred after the actress missed a court hearing and a judge imposed stricter restrictions, including wearing an ankle alcohol monitor.

The report was released a day after a judge sentenced the 24-year-old star of "Mean Girls" to 90 days in jail and a three-month stint at an inpatient rehab center for missing court-mandated alcohol education classes.

One of the tests occurred on June 7, hours after Lohan's ankle monitor registered alcohol in her system.

Superior Court Judge Marsha Revel said Tuesday the alert indicated the actress had a .03 blood alcohol level and that the test results—while clean—came too many hours after the alleged drinking to be useful.

Lohan has denied drinking, and the alcohol report was not an issue during Tuesday's hearing.

The probation officer's report shows Lohan has been taking a variety of medications. They include Adderall, which is used to treat attention hyperactivity disorder, and the powerful prescription painkiller Dilaudid, which the report indicated was for Lohan's "dental pain."

Lohan has also been taking the anti-depressants Zoloft and Trazadone and Nexium, a heartburn treatment.

Lohan had valid prescriptions for all the medications, the report stated. It does not indicate the quantities or how often the actress takes the medications.

But the report noted a comment Lohan made to an officer that she has been on the same prescriptions "for as long as she can remember."

The officer who prepared the report

CNN fires Middle Eastern editor over tweet

NEW YORK (AP)—CNN has fired an editor responsible for Middle Eastern coverage after she posted a note on Twitter expressing admiration for a late Lebanese cleric considered an inspiration for the Hezbollah militant movement.

Octavia Nasr later apologized for her tweet, but CNN's senior vice president for international news-gathering, Parisa Khosravi, said Wednesday that Nasr's credibility had been compromised.

The Atlanta-based Nasr worked at CNN for 20 years, starting as an assignment editor on the international desk. Her job was mostly off the air, but she occasionally would appear as an onscreen analyst during discussions of Middle Eastern news.

Lebanon's Grand Ayatollah Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah died Sunday after a long illness. He was staunchly anti-American and linked to bombings that killed more than

260 Americans, a charge he denied.

In a Twitter posting over the weekend, Nasr said she was sad to hear of Fadlallah's death. She called him "one of Hezbollah's giants I respect a lot."

CNN issued a statement on Tuesday calling it an error in judgment for Nasr to write such a simplistic tweet.

Nasr later said in a blog that she had been referring to Fadlallah's attitude toward women's rights. The cleric had issued edicts banning so-called "honor killing" of women and giving women the right to hit their husbands if attacked first.

She wrote that Fadlallah was "revered across borders yet designated a terrorist. Not the kind of life to be commenting about in a brief tweet. It's something I deeply regret."

But Khosravi said in a memo Wednesday that she spoke with Nasr and "we have decided that she will be leaving the company."

Jury says Disney owes 'Millionaire' makers \$269.2M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A federal jury on Wednesday awarded \$269.2 million in damages to the creators of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" because they didn't get their fair share of profits from the popular Walt Disney Co. television game show.

The jury of five women and four men returned a unanimous verdict agreeing with a British TV production company, the London-based Celador International, which accused Walt Disney of using creative accounting to hide profits.

The trial was held before Judge Virginia Phillips in U.S. District Court in Riverside, about 60 miles east of Los Angeles.

"We believe this verdict is fundamentally wrong and will aggressively seek to have it reversed," Disney said in a statement. Disney attorneys did not return calls for additional comment.

Lead Celador attorney Roman Silberfeld said the verdict form given to jurors was 18 pages long and included 40 or 50 questions, and "every one came out in Celador's favor, 9-0 on every question."

The jury awarded \$260 million in license fees and \$9.2 million for merchandising claims, which were made based on \$70 million in sales of a home edition of the game show.

Celador had asked for a minimum of \$202 million and a maximum of \$395 million, Silberfeld said.

"At a time when (Disney-owned) ABC was ranked last among the networks and desperately needed a hit, it entered into an agreement with Celador to put 'Who Wants to Be a Millionaire' on the air and share the profits of success—if there was success—with Celador 50-50. Every witness testified that was the deal," Silberfeld said.

During four weeks of testimony, Disney Chief Executive Robert Iger took the stand and e-mails from former Disney boss Michael Eisner about his enthusiasm for the show were admitted into evidence.

The show, which was first hosted by Regis Philbin, became very successful for ABC in 1999 and 2000, Silberfeld said. An auditing of books and records is continuing, he added.

ranking in the top 10 shows across the country at least four times that season, Silberfeld said.

It put the network in first place, allowing them to charge more in ad revenues, he said, but "ABC and a series of affiliated companies entered into a series of agreements that were solely intended to show 'Millionaire' never showed a profit."

"If you look at an accounting statement today, after 10 years on the air, it says it has lost money every year and is \$75 million in the red," the attorney said.

Silberfeld said he expected post-trial maneuvers and that an appeal would take a couple of years.

The show was on the air from August 1999 to May 2002. It came back in syndication in fall 2002 and has been on the air since.

Celador sought profits from the show from August of 1999 through the day the original complaint was filed in May 2004, Silberfeld said. An auditing of books and records is continuing, he added.

Don Johnson wins verdict in 'Nash Bridges' case

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A jury has awarded Don Johnson \$23.2 million in profits from the TV series "Nash Bridges" and issued rulings that may mean even more money for the actor.

The jury award came after a two-week trial during which Johnson claimed he was owed millions in profits from the show, which aired for six seasons on CBS.

Johnson attended the entire trial and personally thanked jurors after the verdict was read Wednesday.

He sued three entertainment companies—Rysher Entertainment, 2929 Entertainment and Qualia Capital—in February 2009.

"We're disappointed in the verdict and we'll appeal," said Rysher's attorney, Bart H. Williams. "We respect the jury's

decision and we think there are a lot of pretty significant appellate issues."

Qualia Capital had no immediate comment on the verdict.

An attorney for 2929 Entertainment, which was founded by Mark Cuban and Todd Wagner, did not immediately return phone messages seeking comment.

Rysher Entertainment contended during the trial that the show lost money overall and that was why Johnson hadn't been paid. Much of the show was shot in San Francisco, which contributed to high costs, the company claimed.

Jurors confirmed that Johnson's contract for "Nash Bridges" included a provision that made him a 50 percent owner in the show's copyright. That determination could mean more

money for the 60-year-old actor in the coming years.

"It was my idea, and I owned the rights in the first place," Johnson said in a statement. "From the beginning, I have asked only that Rysher honor our contract, and I am so pleased that the jury agreed with me."

The attorney who crafted Johnson's agreement for "Nash Bridges" testified that the copyright ownership stake was a one-of-a-kind deal in Hollywood.

Attorney Mark Holscher, who represented Johnson, said the case about more than just money for the actor, who rose to fame on the TV series "Miami Vice."

"Not just on a financial level, but on a personal level, it was vindication that he was getting credit for his ideas," Holscher said.

Seth Meyers mining LeBron's future for laughs

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Like a lot of other folks, Seth Meyers is waiting to learn where LeBron James is going to play basketball next season.

But Meyers' interest is purely for laughs. The host of "Weekend Update" on "Saturday Night Live" is mining the drama over James' decision for some comic nuggets to use when Meyers hosts the ESPY Awards.

The annual show honoring the year's best sports moments airs live on ESPN on July 14 from the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles.

"I really like the idea of an entire hour of television being dedicated to a person naming one team," Meyers said.

Meyers presented at last

year's ESPYs, and is hosting for the first time.

"What I'm most anxious about is, I've certainly joked about athletes before but never when they're actually physically there," he said.

Following an ESPYs tradition, Meyers has prepared comedy bits with some athletes.

"They are hilarious," he promised. "I went to the best sports show host ever, and I asked Peyton Manning for a favor. The athletes are always very game."

Among the scheduled presenters are Will Ferrell, singer Kenny Chesney, former ESPYs host Samuel L. Jackson, Tracy Morgan, Danica Patrick, Olympic snowboarder Shaun White, and actor Zac Efron.

Five suggestions to help Lady Gaga

By GLENN GAMBOA
NEWSDAY

Dear Lady Gaga,

We're worried about you. No, not because of your recent finger-flipping faceoff with Mets fans or your alleged banning from the Yankees' clubhouse. Not because Camille Paglia is slagging you off as "high concept fabrication without an ounce of genuine eroticism." And not because Jerry Seinfeld called you a jerk.

We know you're too smart to let your career go off the rails. Heck, your "Monster Ball Tour" is so popular that it's already booked into next April. But we can see a few glitches in the normally well-oiled Gaga Persona-Creation Machine and we thought we'd offer a few suggestions of things you should stop doing before they get out of hand.

1. Stop working so hard. Even the Hardest Working Woman in Show Business needs a break some time, not just for yourself—those hospital stays for exhaustion can't be fun—but for your fans. Your All-Ga-All-The-Time strategy has worked well, but, as they say, how can we miss you if you won't go away?

2. Stop paying homage to Madonna. Of course, the Material Girl influenced you, but so did lots of others. Focusing on them would take some



AP
In this Jan. 20, 2010 file photo, singer Lady Gaga performs in concert at Radio City Music Hall in New York.

ster," maybe you could do a live video for "Dance in the Dark" and no video (!) for "So Happy I Could Die."

3. Stop trying to top yourself video-wise. Look, casual music fans (and much of the mainstream press) don't understand the music business. They've jumped down your throat for your "Alejandro" video not being as good as your "Telephone" video because they don't understand that single releases tend to dip slightly from the same album.

4. Stop saying your next album is done. It may actually be done, but we all know there will be some tweaking before it comes out. Let's keep some mystery alive! Also, you might not want to say it will be "more bitter" and then roll out the super-sweet rock love song "You and I."

5. Stop beefing with the paparazzi. They helped make you a star, not to mention giving you inspiration for a big hit single.

'Idol' summer tour nixes 7 shows, moves up others

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"American Idol" is voting off several stops on its summer tour.

Seven shows on the American Idol Live! Tour have been canceled while others have been changed, according to a revised schedule released by tour organizer Live Nation.

The tour featuring the ninth season's top 10 singers was originally planned to end Sept. 16 in Portland, Maine, but is now scheduled to stop on Sept.

14 in Pittsburgh.

Live Nation spokeswoman Liz Morentin declined to comment on the reason behind the move.

The canceled stops include Omaha, Neb.; Kansas City, Mo.; Winnipeg, Manitoba; Toronto; Buffalo, N.Y.; and Cleveland.

Shows have been moved up in cities such as Des Moines, Iowa; Minneapolis; Chicago; and Toledo, Ohio.

The Fox singing contest, which has long been TV's top-rated series, faced falling viewership during its ninth season and at times was bested by ABC's "Dancing with the Stars" in the ratings.

A total of 24.2 million viewers watched the final duel between Lee DeWyze and Crystal Bowersox, compared to the nearly 29 million viewers who saw Kris Allen win over Adam Lambert last year.

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Sun through Thurs 1:05 4:05 7:05

Steve Carell, Jason Segel
Comedy, Children's/family • Rated PG

Synopsis

A man (voiced by Steve Carell) who's in the midst of making plans to steal the moon is sidetracked when he's put in charge of three orphans in this computer-generated 3-D animated film by directors Chris Renaud and Pierre Coffin. Jason Segel, Kristen Wiig, Will Arnett, Danny McBride, Russell Brand, and Julie Andrews also lend their voices to the Universal Pictures production.



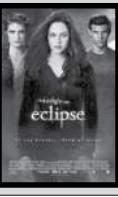
Predators

Friday and Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:55
Sun through Thurs 1:25 4:25 7:25

Adrien Brody, Alice Braga
Action, Science fiction • Rated R

Synopsis

Maverick filmmaker Robert Rodriguez tackles producing duties for a revamp of the Predator film series with this 20th Century Fox/Troublemaker Studios production focusing on a human survival adventure set on the Predator's home planet. Kontroll's Nimród Antal directs from a script by Alex Litvak and Michael Finch, with Adrien Brody heading up an international cast filled out by Danny Trejo, Alice Braga, Topher Grace, Oleg Taktarov, Mahershala Hashim, and Louie Ozawa.



Twilight Saga: Eclipse

Friday and Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:00
Sun through Thurs 1:30 4:30 7:30

Robert Pattinson, Kristen Stewart
Fantasy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

The third film in the Twilight series explores a love triangle between Bella (Kristen Stewart), Edward (Robert Pattinson), and Jacob (Taylor Lautner) as the werewolf pack and the Cullen clan join together to fight a new breed of vampires. Melissa Rosenberg provides the screenplay for the Summit Entertainment adaptation of Stephenie Meyer's best-selling novel, with director David Slade calling the shots behind the camera.



The Last Airbender

Friday and Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:45
Sun through Thurs 1:15 4:15 7:15

Noah Ringer, Nicola Peltz
Adventure, Family • Rated PG

Synopsis

Friday and Saturday 1:20 4:10 7:20 9:30
Sun through Thurs 1:20 4:10 7:20

Tom Hanks, Tim Allen
Fantasy, Children's, Family • Rated G



Grown Ups

Friday and Saturday 1:10 4:20 7:10 9:35
Sun through Thurs 1:10 4:20 7:10

Adam Sandler, Kevin James
Comedy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Friday and Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:50
Sun through Thurs 1:00 4:00 7:00

Jackie Chan, Jaden Smith
Drama • Rated PG

● NO PASSES ■ NO PASSES OR SUPER SAVERS
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Betty White: Calendar Girl



MARCH 2011



In this publicity image released by Workman Publishing, actress Betty White is shown in a photo from the March page of "The Betty White Calendar 2011," which will be available for \$12.99 in September.

NEW YORK (AP)—Betty White is catapulting to true "IT girl" status with her very own calendar.

It's true. The 88-year-old actress is posing for her own 2011 calendar. Some of the photos are archival, others are Betty with animals and more than one month features Betty posing with shirtless, beefcake-type men.

The Betty White Calendar

costs \$12.99 and will go on sale in September.

Royalties will go to the Morris Animal Foundation where White serves as a trustee.

In May, White became the oldest person to host "Saturday Night Live." She's co-starring in the new TV Land original sitcom, "Hot in Cleveland," which airs Wednesdays at 10 p.m. Eastern/9 Central.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Ringo celebrates birthday with 'Peace' salute

NEW YORK (AP)—With a little help from his friends, Ringo Starr celebrated his 70th birthday in New York with a global "Peace and Love" moment. Starr led the salute Wednesday in Times Square to throngs of spectators looking to catch a glimpse of the legendary Beatle. He told the crowd that being in New York was a "magical moment in 1964, and it's still a magical moment." Earlier, Starr was honored at the Hard Rock Cafe with a cake and a chorus of "Happy Birthday." He waited patiently for staff to

bring a cake knife so he could cut his own cake, as is tradition in Liverpool. Starr wants people from every part of the globe to say "Peace and Love" at noon everyday by word, e-mail or any form of communication.

Skeet Ulrich to star in 'Law & Order' LA spinoff

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The newest "Law & Order" spinoff has collared its first star. A spokeswoman for "Law & Order: Los Angeles" says Skeet Ulrich will play one of the two lead detectives on the series, scheduled to air this fall on NBC.

'Cyrus' star is looking for roles he can be proud of in 20 years

By COLIN COVERT
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

MINNEAPOLIS—With his world's-biggest-leprechaun physicality and sweet watermelon slice of a grin, John C. Reilly is hardly a committee-designed film star. And that has worked to his advantage.

His regular-guy mug (Michael J. Pollard, meet Gene Hackman) and outsized acting talent have won him a raft of roles working for the industry's best directors, from Paul Thomas Anderson and Robert Altman to Bill Condon and Martin Scorsese (twice). He moves easily between serious roles and levity. His versatility is put to good use on his latest project, a funny/sad whysit from indie heroes Mark and Jay Duplass.

In "Cyrus" he plays a love-starved divorced man navigating between a co-dependent mother (Marisa Tomei) and her pathologically possessive son (Jonah Hill). Catherine Keener costars as Reilly's sympathetic ex-wife.

With 50-some films to his credit, Reilly came to the set with a lot more production experience than the Duplass brothers, who cut their teeth on ultra-low-budget do-it-yourself films. But he never felt the temptation—or the need—to offer advice.

"Even though they didn't have a ton of experience with

big-budget movies, they didn't want a lot of experience with big-budget movies," he said during a publicity visit to Minneapolis. "They wanted to make movies the way they made them. I think that's what made this movie so original and genuine was that they didn't follow the rules of moviemaking or any kind of standard procedure. In fact they ran screaming from those kind of rules, you know?"

The camera work is handheld and sometimes zooms in on a face in mid-take, home-movie style. The film was shot in chronological sequence—unusual for a feature film—so the actors would grow more comfortable together in real time. The Hollywood rule book went out the window.

Reilly doesn't care to define the resulting movie as drama or comedy. "It's just weird and authentic," he said.

Touching one moment, ironic the next, it grew out of freewheeling improvisation. When the actors flail onscreen as their characters attempt to connect, they're also feeling their way through their own unscripted dialogue, as is the Duplass method.

Reilly has ad-libbed his way through freewheeling farces like "Talladega Nights" and "Step Brothers," but never was he urged to abandon the script and wing it throughout a realistic film.



PHIL VELASQUEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE/MCT
Actor John C. Reilly, shown in his hometown of Chicago, Illinois, on May 19, 2010, is promoting his latest movie "Cyrus."

Ulrich appeared last season in several episodes of another crime series, "CSI: NY," as a killer. His credits also include "Jericho," a TV drama that drew a passionate but small audience. Production on "Law & Order: Los Angeles" is scheduled to begin later this month. The original "Law & Order" was canceled by NBC after 20 seasons.

Frances McDormand returns to Broadway

NEW YORK (AP)—Academy Award winner Frances McDormand returns to Broadway this coming season in "Good People," a new play by David

Lindsay-Abaire. Tony Award winner Daniel Sullivan will direct the play about the hopes and struggles of making it in America. Sullivan and Lindsay-Abaire's "Rabbit Hole" earned a Tony Award and garnered Lindsay-Abaire the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 2007. The Manhattan Theater Club production begins previews next February, with opening night set for March 3, 2011. McDormand won an Oscar for her performance in "Fargo" and received a Tony nomination for her portrayal of Stella in the 1988 Broadway revival of "A Streetcar Named Desire."

Pastor sells truck for parts and takes widow for a ride

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: Last year, my husband of 36 years died. My pastor came over a few days later to help me clean up my yard because my husband was a pack rat. I did not realize that some of the items I thought were junk were valuable. My pastor took the items, sold them for scrap and kept the money for himself. He also took my husband's truck to his shop, stripped it and sold the parts.

I have tried calling him but he won't answer or return my calls. I tried talking to him after church only to have him shut the door in my face. I have written him a letter—no response.

Abby, I don't want to take my pastor to court. I'm beginning to lose my faith. What should I do?



Dear Abby

LOSING MY FAITH IN KINSTON, N.C.

DEAR LOSING YOUR FAITH: My gut reaction is to scream, "Call the cops!" The man you have described is a wolf in shepherd's clothing and it could save other trusting widows from being fleeced as you have been. If you can't bring yourself to take that "pastor" to civil court, at least report these thefts to the judiciary or regional board of your denomination so they can deal with him.

DEAR ABBY: I have been married 30 years and have had issues with my mother-in-law since before the wedding. She didn't want me to marry her son and has criticized my hair, my weight, my child-rearing, etc., during my entire marriage. Of course, she never says these things when my husband is within earshot. I didn't discuss it with him because we don't see her often.

We're planning a one-week visit with them, and my 50th birthday will occur during the visit. My husband told me I could do whatever I wanted on my birthday and mentioned including his parents. I told him I didn't want to spend the day with them and now he's mad at me.

I realize this may seem petty to you, but this is a milestone birthday that I'm not really looking forward to. What do I do? Do I "suck it up" and deal with her presence on my birthday or stand my ground?

DREADED IT IN ALAMOGORDO, N.M.

DEAR DREADED IT: Remind your spouse that he SAID you could do anything you wished on your birthday, and that you didn't realize that telling him you wanted to spend this milestone without his parents would upset him. Then tell him that because he feels obligated to include his parents, of course, you won't object—as long as he's willing to celebrate the occasion the way YOU would like after you return from the visit.

P.S. It's too bad you didn't tell him his mother was "gunning for you" decades ago, because he might have been able to nip it in the bud.

DEAR ABBY: Many years ago my wife conceived a child with an old boyfriend who had been after her for quite a while without my knowledge. I adopted the child after he left her.

I have tried to convince my wife to tell our daughter the truth for medical reasons, but she refuses. She feels if she tells our daughter the truth, she will be disgraced forever. What is your opinion?

LOVES MY DAUGHTER IN WASHINGTON STATE

DEAR LOVES YOUR DAUGHTER: Your daughter should have been told the truth years ago—and it is still not too late to do so. My concern is that she may eventually hear it from some other relative or a close family friend who assumes she already knows. These kinds of family secrets invariably have a way of slipping out, and better that your daughter hear the story from her mother than someone else.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write *Dear Abby* at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: *Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet*, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Watterson

Garfield®



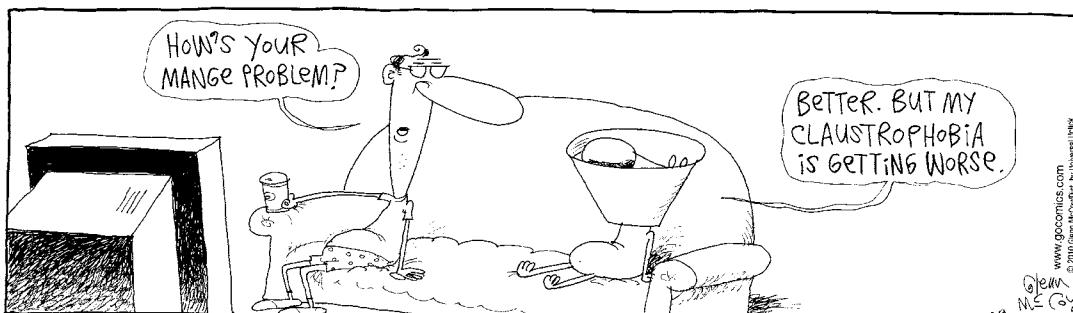
By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



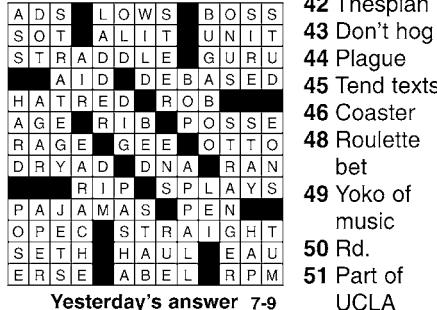
By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	38	China-town gang	57	Bygone times, in bygone times	17	On the rocks
1	Scenery chews	39 Shade	21 Miss	23 Stratagems	21	Threw
4	Encountered	41 America	58 Monterrey monarch	24 — Town	23	Stratagems
7	Stephen King territory	45 Bridge positions	25 Insecticide letters	25	—	Town
12	Greek vowel	47 Dance syllable	1 Burden-some	26 Vast expanse	26	—
13	Flightless bird	48 Willy Wonka's creator	2 Court-yards	28 Wapiti	28	Wapiti
14	Small studio's output	52 Pitch	3 Noisy bird	30 — Claire, Wisc.	30	— Claire, Wisc.
15	Curved line	53 Ballade ender	4 Netting	31 Lawyer (Abbr.)	31	Lawyer (Abbr.)
16	Duke Ellington classic	54 "Holy cow!"	5 Computer letters	32 Personal question	32	Personal question
18	By way of	55 Bobby of hockey lore	6 — frutti	33 Half a sawbuck	33	Half a sawbuck
19	Snag	56 Accomplish, biblically	7 Ho Chi —	36 Roe provider	36	Roe provider
20	Deviates off course	10 Zero	8 Moreover	37 Hallowed spot	37	Hallowed spot
22	Whopper	11 Slithery fish	9 Bachelor's last words	40 Grammarian's subject	40	Grammarian's subject
23	Space-craft compartments	12 Thespian	10 Zero	42 Thespian	42	Thespian
27	— Miserables	13 Don't hog	11 Slithery fish	43 Don't hog	43	Don't hog
29	Fool	14 Plague	12 Hallowed spot	44 Plague	44	Plague
31	Really bad	15 Tend texts	13 Slithery fish	45 Tend texts	45	Tend texts
34	Heart line?	16 Coaster	14 Plague	46 Coaster	46	Coaster
35	Reasons	17 Roulette bet	15 Tend texts	47 Roulette bet	47	Roulette bet
37	Purchase	18 Yoko of music	16 Coaster	48 Yoko of music	48	Yoko of music
		19 Rd.	17 Roulette bet	49 Rd.	49	Rd.
		20 Part of UCLA	20 Yoko of music	50 Part of UCLA	50	Part of UCLA

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 7-9

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Fred Savage, 34; Courtney Love, 46; Tom Hanks, 54; Chris Cooper, 59

Happy Birthday: Don't let your emotions get the better of you. Patience will be required. It's your attitude that will count and determine the outcome of anything you undertake this year. There is plenty to be thankful for, so realize your good fortune. This is a year of progress as long as you don't wallow in negativity and jealousy. Your numbers are 6, 14, 17, 29, 33, 37, 46

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Life experience will count. Don't be surprised by what others do or say. Keeping a poker face will help you control the situation and buy you time to make some alterations of your own. **★★★**

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't let someone else's plans or opinions make you feel uncertain about your own. You will do your best and get the furthest if you ignore what everyone else is doing and saying and focus on what you produce. **★★★**

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You can resolve problems by hashing out what's doable and what isn't with the people you are up against. Once you have made your offer, it will be easier to find common ground. Communication is the name of the game, so speak from the heart. **★★**

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Approach domestic and professional jobs from a different angle and you will realize how you can get ahead. Present and promote what you have to offer and you will interest someone

in your plans. Don't take on someone else's responsibilities. **★★★**

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You can persuade others to help you achieve your goals. Taking a practical, meaningful approach to everything you do will encourage others to do the same. A love relationship will be disappointing from a financial view. **★★★★**

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't let your emotions lead to a mistake you'll regret. Sharing your inner thoughts with someone who doesn't have your best interests at heart will turn out badly. The less dependent you are, the better. **★★**

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): There is a lesson to be learned about sharing your personal thoughts with just anybody. A colleague will use information you share against you. Professionalism will be what counts in the end. **★★★★**

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't let love stand in the way of your progress. Get your work out of the way before you move on. You may feel like cutting corners but, if you listen to an older experienced comrade, you will realize there is no shortcut when it comes to being the best. **★★★**

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Follow your heart and don't give in to someone's emotional ultimatum. Don't show anger or upset. Now is the time for strength. Stick to your opinion and prepare to walk away if that's what's required. **★★★**

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Sharing your ideas will bring about contro-

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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versy. Don't limit what you want to do because of comments made by skeptics or ultra conservative individuals lacking vision. Debates will be informative. Don't let love cost you. **★★★★**

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You mustn't get all worked up about something that needs to be hashed out maturely. Bring issues that concern you out into the open. Listen to what the voice of authority and experience has to say. Life is too short to waste living a lie. Speak up. **★★★★**

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't be taken in by compliments. A partnership can only be valuable if you share the work and the recognition equally. Emotional deception is apparent. If you cannot come to an agreement, ask an outsider for perspective. **★★**

Birthday Baby: You are assertive, confident and responsible for your actions. You don't wait for others or give in to pressure. You are opinionated, precise and unpredictable.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

3		4			5			
1	6	7	2					
9	7	8	6					
6	9			2				
2	1	6	3					
7	4	5	8					
4	8			6				

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	9	2	5	3	6	7	1	4
3	4	6	7	1	9	8	5	2
1	7	5	8	2	4	6	3	9
2	8	3	6	5	7	4	9	1
6	5	4	1	9	8	2	7	3
7	1	9	2	4	3	5	8	6
5	3	7	9	6	2	1	4	8
4	2	1	3	8	5	9	6	7
9	6	8	4	7	1	3	2	5

Difficulty Level ★★★★

7/09

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

'HOUSE, M.D.'

Solution: 9 letters

C	D	N	O	I	T	A	R	E	B	I	L	E	D
A	I	L	M	E	N	T	S	C	H	A	S	E	H
U	A	P	I	A	N	O	G	U	I	T	A	R	G
S	G	N	O	N	Y	E	C	T	S	S	E	A	R
E	N	A	S	R	A	D	N	E	E	R	J	M	T
I	O	M	T	E	H	E	D	R	S	I	U	E	A
N	S	E	C	R	R	T	D	U	A	N	T	C	D
N</													

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pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re The Matter Of The Petition To Appoint General Guardianship For:

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF FRANCISCO C. ADA, Deceased.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0182

AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING ON THE PETITION TO PROBATE WILL/PETITION TO DECLARE EXEMPT PROPERTY (HOMESTEAD ALLOWANCE AND ONE VEHICLE)

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE FRANCISCO C. ADA OR HIS ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Ines Seman Ada, has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Petition to Probate Will/Petition to Declare Exempt property (Homestead Allowance and one Vehicle) of the Estate of Francisco C. Ada, Deceased. The attorney for Petitioner is Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition to Probate Will/Petition to Declare Exempt property (Homestead Allowance and one Vehicle) by Ines Seman Ada, as Petitioner, has been set for (July 27, 2010 at 1:30pm, at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing. Any and all persons, creditors or entities having claims against the Deceased or his estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within Sixty (60) days of this publication, or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to ROBERT T. TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.

Date this 21st day of June 2010.

/s/ Bernadita Sablan
 Clerk of Court

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

THE FINANCIAL & INSURANCE SERVICES GROUP, INC., Plaintiff,

CIVIL ACTION NO. 09-0338

RAMON P. AGULTO and DALIA R. AGULTO, Defendants.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an order issued by the Court in this matter on June 16, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot 001 G 32, situated in Kagman, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 G 02, the original of which was recorded March 20, 1986, as Document No. 86-0513, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, and also recorded on February 16, 1989, as Document No. 89-511, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, the description therein being incorporated herein by this reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, July 23, 2010, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

Dated, this 30th day of June, 2010:

/s/ Michael A. White, Auctioneer

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 or
235-8980

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ADS

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• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

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Saturday Issue:

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Classified Ads

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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is seeking qualified applicants for the position of
FRONT DESK SUPERVISOR
(Korean Speaking)

Applicants must have a minimum of 1 year work experience in Front Office operations, be knowledgeable of the Epitome system and is computer literate. MUST be able to read, write and speak Korean. Applicants should also have an understanding of Guest Services operations, Guest Relations and Housekeeping.

The Front Desk is a 24-hour operational department. The person selected for this position will work A, B, & C shifts, including weekends and holidays.

PIC Employment Applications are available at the Security Desk and must be submitted no later than July 13, 2010.

Pacific Islands Club Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Northern Marianas College



PRESIDENT

The Northern Marianas College is currently accepting applications for the position of President. The President of the Northern Marianas College serves as the chief executive officer for the Board of Regents and oversees a multi-campus college system located in three separate islands (Saipan, main campus; Rota and Tinian). The President will report to the Board of Regents and will be expected to carry out the mission of the College:

The mission of Northern Marianas College shall be to provide the best quality and meaningful post secondary and adult educational opportunities for the purpose of improving the quality of life for the individual and for the Commonwealth as a whole. The College shall be responsible for providing education in the areas of adult and continuing education, post secondary and adult vocational education and professional development for the people of the Commonwealth.

Minimum Qualifications

Master's degree from a U.S. accredited university plus five (5) years of executive level management experience in an institution of higher education or other relevant organization, or a combination of at least five (5) years of executive level management including post-secondary education teaching experience; experience working in a multicultural environment; experience in accreditation process, personnel management, budget development and presentation, strategic planning, and institutional assessment, fundraising, mediation, and team building; and knowledge of federal programs and grants application in higher education.

Preference will be given to applicants that meet or exceed the following:

1. Doctoral degree holders in education administration or related fields from a US accredited institution (other terminal degree holders will be considered); and
2. Five years or more experience in an executive position in higher education administration or related fields; and
3. Three years or more of teaching experience in postsecondary education; and
4. Knowledge of technology used in higher education; and
5. Considerable experience with Asia-Pacific island cultures.

The salary for the position is \$80,000 per annum plus benefits. Applications will be reviewed immediately after the thirty days announcement. Applicants with non-U.S. degrees are responsible for providing an official evaluation of their degrees to determine U.S. equivalency.

Applicants should include a curriculum vitae indicating their competencies in Organizational Strategy, Resource Management, Communication, Collaboration, College Advocacy, and Professionalism; official transcripts; list of published journal work or scholarly research; three personal and three professional references (complete with name, title, address, phone / email contact); and four letters of professional recommendations specific to this position. Complete application packages and documents should be sent by certified priority mail and must be received by the closing date of AUGUST 9, 2010, to:

Ms. Maria Paz Younis
Chairperson, Presidential Search Committee
Northern Marianas College (Attention: Human Resources Office)
P.O. Box 501250
Saipan, MP 96950

The committee reserves the option to extend the closing date if there are insufficient qualified applicants. For more information about this position announcement and about NMC, visit www.nmcnet.edu.

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Please call 235-NEWS



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

CUC-RFP-10-031 TANK CLEANING & REPLACEMENT POWER PLANT NOS. 1 & 2

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced firms for the "Tank Cleaning & Replacement" at its Power Plant Nos. 1 and 2, Lower Base, Saipan, CNMI. The work under this RFP is divided into two separate projects so that CUC will have the opportunity to select more than one Offeror and provides for expedited project completion if it finds that would be in the best interest of CUC. All the work will be done as a part of the US EPA Stipulated order No. 2 response action and is subject to their approval. This project will be funded through the grant awarded by the US Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs:

A. Project 1:

- A. 1. Cleaning of tanks 101 and 102 (588,000 USG, each), used for diesel fuel storage;
- A. 2. Cleaning of tank 107 (1,320 USG), used for used oil storage;
- A. 3. Cleaning of tank 107 C (23,000 USG), used for used oil storage;
- A. 4. Cleaning of tank 108 B (4,678 USG), used for lube oil storage.

B. Project 2:

- B. 1. Disposal of tank 107 C (23,000 USG), after cleaning and replacement with a new shop fabricated tank of similar size/dimension to fit the available foundation base;
- B. 2. Disposal tank 108 B (4,678 USG), after cleaning;
- B. 3. Disposal tank 101 A and 102 (588,000 USG each), after cleaning if upon inspection it is not Economically viable to repair the tank.

RFP Deadlines and Highlights:

- Proposal Submission - One (1) original and Six (6) hard copies must be submitted in a seal envelope marked "CUC-RFP- 10-031 "TANK CLEANING & REPLACEMENT POWER PLANT NO. 1" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, Room No.4, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan, P.O.Box 501220, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **July 23, 2010 at 10:00 AM, (CHST) local time**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Manuel B. Sablan, Jr., Procurement & Supply Manager at email msablan@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Late submissions will not be considered.
- The Scope-of-Work will be e-mailed upon request, to all interested Offerors, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), Monday thru Friday, except government observed holidays, **until July 14, 2010**.
- A Pre-proposal Conference followed by a Site Visit will be held on **July 01, 2010 at 9:30 AM** CUC Power Plant No. 1 Administration Building, Lower Base, Saipan.
- Submission of questions and clarifications must be submitted in writing via email no later than 10:00 AM (CHST) local time on **July 16, 2010** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Procurement and Supply Manager via email msablan@cucgov.net; Mr. William Sword, Technical Manager for Oil, via email sword.william@gmail.com and Mr. Venugopal Prabhakara, Managing Engineer, Power generation, via email venu@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective Offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.
- A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposal. A Performance and Payment bond of hundred (100%) percent each of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Offeror.

Contract/s will be awarded to the most responsive Offeror, as adjudged by the Source Selection Committee (SSC). CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government.

/s/ **ABE UTU MALAE**
Acting Executive Director



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

PA/HMGP/CIP PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

INVITATION TO BID

ITB10-GOV-116

CNMI Brown Tree Snake Program Facility Improvements

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, are soliciting sealed bids for the CNMI Brown Tree Snake Program Facility Improvements in the Municipality of Saipan, Department of Lands and Natural Resources (DLNR), Division of Fish and Wildlife, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

The project package will be available Monday, June 21, 2010 at the Governor's CIP Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A \$25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be no Pre-bid Conference/Site Visit for this project. Bidders are encouraged to visit the site to familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting their bid. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on July 01, 2010 to Mr. Carl Castro, Project Coordinator, Capital Improvement Program, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408.

Sealed bids must be marked "ITB10-GOV-116". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, July 19, 2010. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time July 19, 2010, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than July 19, 2010 and must be received no later than July 28, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, July 29, 2010. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 11:00 a.m. Saipan local time, on July 19, 2010.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid bond of fifteen percent (15 %) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". Surely companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must possess a certificate of authority to conduct business in the CNMI and certification that the value or its unencumbered assets (exclusive or all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the amount or each bond. Performance time for completion of this project is one hundred twenty (120) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) two hundred dollars (\$200.00), or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by one hundred twenty (120) calendar days, the contract time and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS, Lieutenant Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF

/s/ Dr. Ignacio Dela Cruz, Secretary DLNR
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Bosh joins Wade in Miami, as they wait for LeBron

DAVIE, Fla. (AP)—Dwyane Wade's future was muddled and uncertain, until Chris Bosh told him where he wanted to spend the next few years.

"I'm feeling Miami," Bosh said.

Those three words were all Wade needed to make his decision.

Will they be enough to sway LeBron James to Miami? Stay tuned.

Ending months of speculation, Wade and Bosh announced Wednesday that they'll sign with Miami, two decisions that vault the Heat back into the NBA championship picture and put them two-thirds of the way to hitting one of the biggest trifectas in NBA history. Wade, Bosh and James all have talked about playing together. On Thursday night, James will say why that will or will not happen.

"It's over," Wade said in an interview with The Associated Press. "It's not all over-over, but for me, it's over."

James can't say that yet.

Wade told the Heat that for him to resign, the team had to add either James or Bosh. For good measure, they might get both.

"It had to be one or the other," Wade said in the AP interview. "Of course, there's a lot of talented players in this league. But you want to look at players that complement my game, and Chris and LeBron are two of those guys. I had a decision to make. Chris had a decision to make. It wasn't a lock that he would come to Miami. So I had a lot to think about."

James averaged 29.7 points for Cleveland last season, Wade averaged 26.6 points for Miami and Bosh averaged career-bests of 24.0 points and 10.8 rebounds for Toronto.

They were the three kingpins of this long-hyped free-agent market, a trio of All-Stars who came into the league together seven years ago and structured their last contracts just to hit the open market together this summer, the last under the current terms of the league's collective bargaining agreement.

Now, the ball is in King James' court.

"I expect us to compete for a championship," Bosh told ESPN. "I think both Dwyane and I, we both wanted an opportunity where right away we would be competing. ... We're ready to sacrifice a lot of things in order to do that. It's not about the money. It's not about anything else except for winning. I'm a winner. Dwyane's a winner. We're going to bring winning to Miami."

That was Heat president Pat Riley's plan.

Around the NBA, the immediate reaction was that Miami is poised to be in the mix for the 2011 title.

"It just makes the East that much better," Boston Celtics coach Doc Rivers said in Orlando, Fla., where he was watching summer league games.

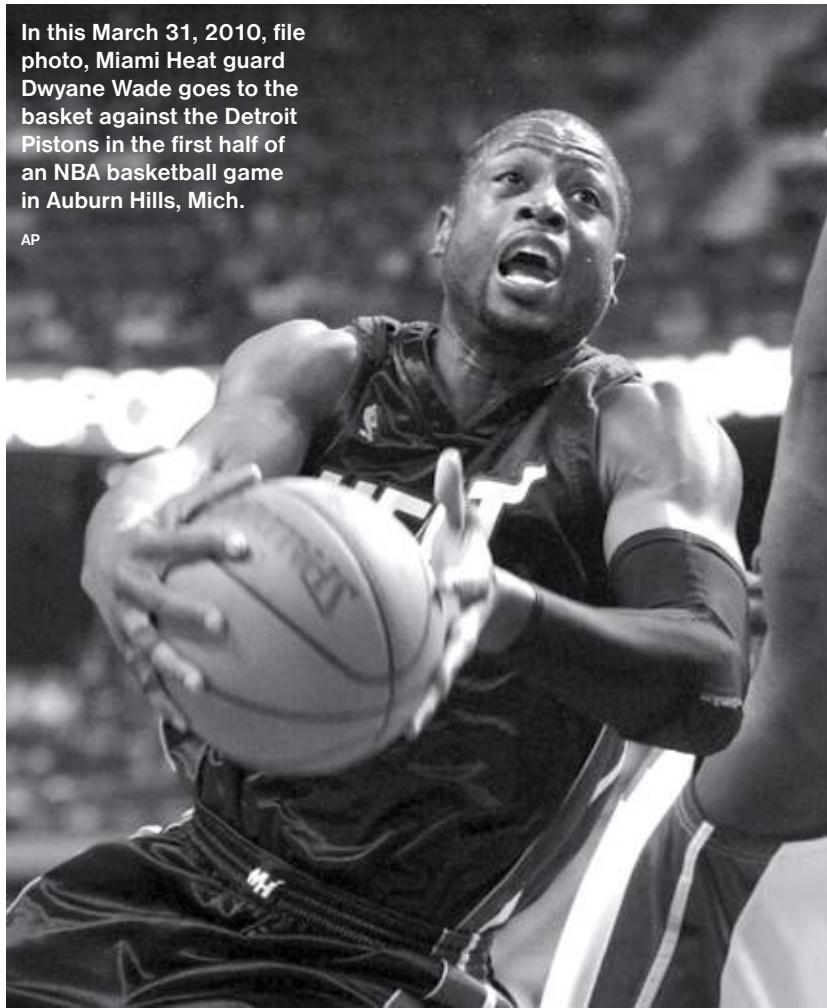
Magic coach Stan Van Gundy was more succinct, lauding Bosh as "one of the best forwards in basketball."

"I think they're instant contenders," Van Gundy said. "I don't think there's any doubt. They're instant contenders to win an NBA championship."

Wade's summer of change is now almost complete. He settled four civil lawsuits stemming from failed business deals, finally completed a long-awaited divorce and was awarded temporary custody of his two sons. And the question he'd been hearing for years—stay-

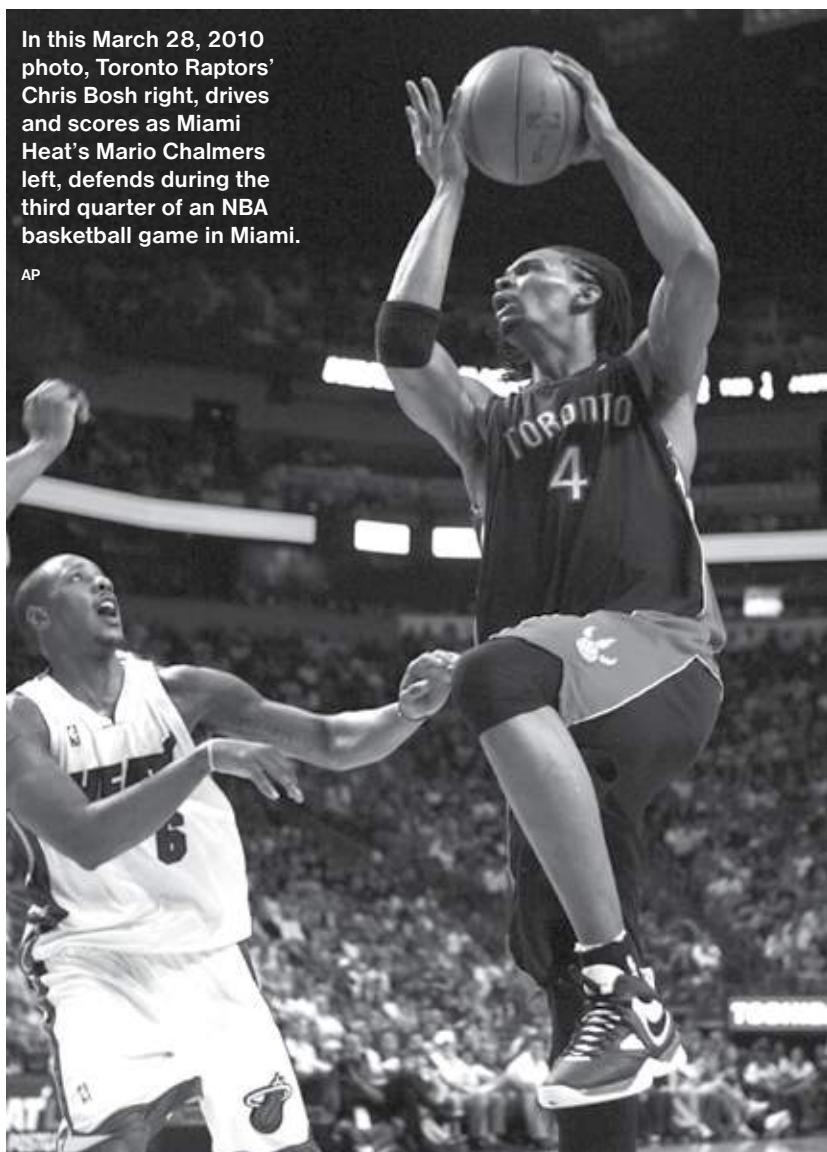
In this March 31, 2010, file photo, Miami Heat guard Dwyane Wade goes to the basket against the Detroit Pistons in the first half of an NBA basketball game in Auburn Hills, Mich.

AP



In this March 28, 2010, photo, Toronto Raptors' Chris Bosh right, drives and scores as Miami Heat's Mario Chalmers left, defends during the third quarter of an NBA basketball game in Miami.

AP



ing or going?—has an answer.

It wasn't easy.

For Wade, the decision came down to Miami vs. Chicago, adopted hometown vs. actual hometown.

The Bulls almost pulled it off, until Bosh said he was bullish on Miami.

"The good part of this was controlling your own destiny," Wade told the AP. "It really meant a lot to me, and I'm sure if you ask Chris or ask LeBron, they'd say the same. You have a say-so. You can control the destiny of where and what's best for you. And it's not many times in your life or your career if you're

going to have that. This is it."

Wade does not know what the terms of his contract will be (he could receive around \$126 million for six years but told AP he would take less if necessary to make other deals work). Bosh doesn't have terms of his deal done either. It's all contingent on what James says Thursday night, and Wade insisted he knows nothing about what the two-time MVP will say or where he'll be saying it from.

"I won't speak to him again until he makes his decision," Wade said in the AP interview. "And when it's over, I

will congratulate him."

The Heat still have only four players in the picture for this coming season: Wade, Bosh, Michael Beasley and Mario Chalmers. Miami is in discussions with several free agents, including Brendan Haywood, Mike Miller, Raymond Felton and Udonis Haslem—whom Wade has played with in all seven of his previous seasons.

The salary cap released for the 2010-11 season on Thursday was just over \$58 million, about \$2 million more than teams expected, and that extra money could likely be yet another free-agency edge for the Heat.

"We'll see what the best thing is for us to win," Wade told the AP. "I'm go-

ing to make a lot of money, no matter what happens. I've been blessed. I'm not counting every dollar and every cent. Let's sit down, let's see what the best thing is for us, for the long haul."

Miami came into free agency with what turned out to be roughly \$46 million of cap space, not including \$16.5 million or so earmarked for Wade, thanks to years of avoiding just about any deal where money would have been committed for the 2010-11 season.

It was high-stakes poker, and Riley went all-in that he could get something done to make Wade happy.

Citing league rules, the Heat couldn't express their glee Wednesday, since the NBA's signing moratorium was ongoing.

NBA BRIEFS

Source: Boozer agrees to deal with Bulls

CHICAGO (AP)—Carlos Boozer is headed to the Chicago Bulls. Now what about you, LeBron James? A person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press that Boozer, a two-time All-Star forward, agreed to a deal on Wednesday and is leaving the Utah Jazz after six seasons. The person, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because the contract can't become official until 12:01 a.m. Thursday, did not reveal the terms. Several outlets have reported it's a five-year deal, and the *Chicago Tribune* cited a source saying the Bulls would still have enough room to offer a maximum salary contract to another free agent. The NBA set the salary cap at \$58.04 million for next season on Wednesday. Boozer becomes the latest chip to fall on a day when Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh confirmed they will play in Miami next season.

the thunder...God Is Great, me and my family came a long way...I love yall man forreal, this a blessing!" Durant tweeted. Another post soon followed, presumably about the contract: "First time i cried n a while ... RIP Chucky, we doin wat we dreamed about..i swear i love all my bros!! yessir!!! "Chucky" is one of Durant's former coaches, Charles Craig, who was shot to death in Maryland in 2005. The reigning NBA scoring leader is signed with the Thunder through next season under his original rookie contract, which would pay him about \$5 million next year. Oklahoma City, which is well under the salary cap, could offer Durant more than two times that much, depending on where the cap is set for next season.

Clippers hire Del Negro as their new coach

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Vinny Del Negro could have taken it easy after being fired by the Chicago Bulls. They still owe him money, so there was no pressing need to jump back on the NBA coaching carousel. Still, he couldn't resist. Del Negro agreed to a three-year deal to coach the Los Angeles Clippers on Wednesday, taking over a team that went 29-53 last season and missed the playoffs for the 15th time in 17 years. "I know how difficult it is, I know the challenges that we have, but that's what makes it interesting, that's what makes it fun for me," he said. "I love the competition, I love the challenge." He replaces Kim Hughes, who finished the season as interim coach after Mike Dunleavy stepped aside in February to focus on his GM duties before leaving for good in March. Del Negro coached two seasons in Chicago, compiling an 82-82 overall record and leading the team to consecutive playoff appearances before being fired in May.

Kings agree to contract with top pick Cousins

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—The Sacramento Kings have signed rookie center DeMarcus Cousins to a contract. The team announced the deal with the No. 5 pick in the draft on Wednesday. Cousins can earn about \$7 million in the first two years of the deal, and the Kings have separate team options for the third and fourth seasons. Cousins averaged 15.1 points, 9.8 rebounds and 1.8 blocks as a freshman at Kentucky. He was one of five Wildcats taken in the first round of the draft. The Kings are counting on Cousins to be the dominating inside presence they have been lacking in recent years.

Raiders say they did all they could to aid Russell



ALAMEDA, Calif. (AP)—The Oakland Raiders responded to former JaMarcus Russell's recent arrest on Wednesday by saying they did all they could to help the former No. 1 overall pick before releasing him two months ago.

The Raiders issued a statement two days after Russell was charged with possession of a controlled substance—codeine syrup—after being arrested at his home in Mobile, Ala.

"We did all that we could to intervene and assist with a myriad of issues with JaMarcus Russell," the statement said. "NFL policy restricts our ability to comment publicly at this time. Therefore, those in the media who declare what the Raiders knew or should have known or what the Raiders did or should have done, are reckless, irresponsible and offensive, and do a disservice to all concerned, including the public."

The 24-year-old former LSU star was arrested Monday as part of a two-month undercover narcotics investigation, said Mobile County Sheriff's spokeswoman Lori Myles. She would not say what led to his arrest. She said he did not have a prescription for the codeine.

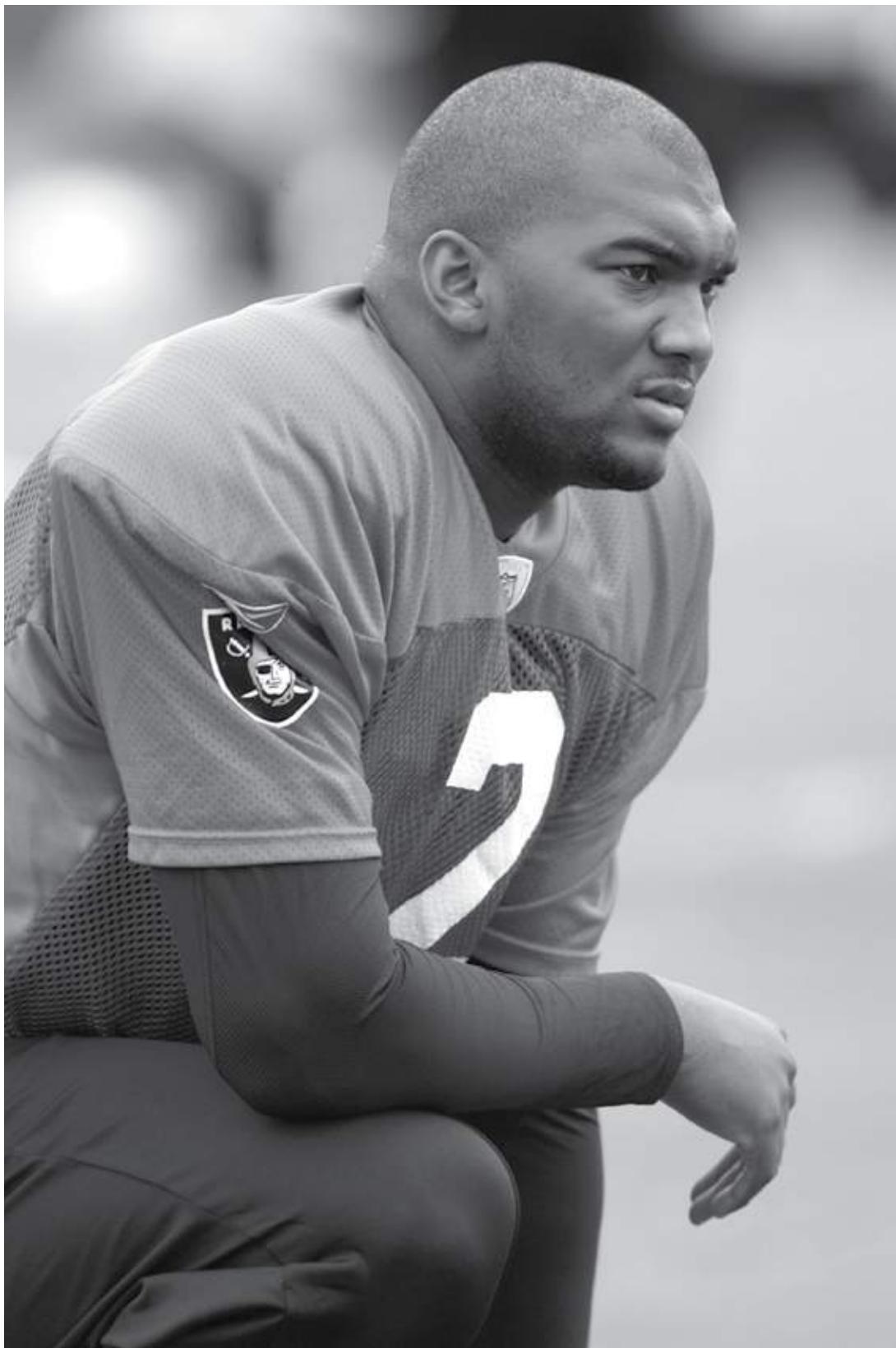
Russell was released earlier in May after three disappointing seasons with the team. He had been paid about \$36.4 million through last season and was still owed \$3 million at the time of his release.

The Raiders have filed a grievance seeking \$9.55 million from Russell in what they say was paid as salary advances for the 2010-12 seasons.

Russell won only seven of his 25 starts as the Raiders extended an NFL-worst streak to seven straight seasons with at least 11 losses. He completed just 52.1 percent of his passes in his career with 18 touchdowns, 23 interceptions, 15 lost fumbles and a passer rating of 65.2.

Russell was fined last year for being overweight when he showed up at training camp. He then put together one of the worst seasons in recent memory for an NFL quarterback. He completed 48.8 percent of his passes, with three touchdowns, 11 interceptions and a 50.0 passer rating that was the lowest in 11 years.

He lost his job midway through last season and was eventually released on May 6, shortly after the team's mandatory minicamp.



In this Sept. 12, 2007 photo, Oakland Raiders top draft pick quarterback JaMarcus Russell watches practice at the Raiders football training facility in Alameda, Calif.

Prosecutor: Michael Vick in confrontation before shooting

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (AP)—The city's lead prosecutor said Wednesday night that Michael Vick was involved in a confrontation before a shooting following his birthday bash.

Commonwealth's Attorney Harvey L. Bryant told The Associated Press Wednesday night in a telephone interview that Vick was not involved in the shooting and that he left the nightclub "in the 3 to 5 minute range" before it occurred.

Bryant would not go into detail about the confrontation, but said there was no evidence the Philadelphia Eagles quarterback was involved in "anything that would amount to aggressive or assaultive conduct."

"He's an athlete and an entertainer, but he's also a human being, and things that would tick you and I off would tick him off," Bryant said. "But he extricated himself from those things and left with the help and encouragement of some of his friends and supporters."

Police have said Vick was not the shooter. Bryant said the investigation also shows that Vick "was not aware of whether or not anyone was going to be shot, was threatened to be shot or anything to do with any of that business."

Neither Vick's attorney, Larry Woodward, or his agent, Joel Segal, returned phone messages Wednesday night.

Bryant, who has declined to press charges at this time against anyone in the shooting, said the victim and witnesses have not cooperated. He would not confirm a police statement made Tuesday that they know who the shooter is, but did say that the case remains open.

The victim has not been identified by police, but Woodward, said it was Quanis Phillips—a co-defendant in the federal dogfighting case that landed Vick in federal prison. Phillips, who Woodward said was not invited to the party and did not interact with Vick while there, was treated at a hospital and released the following day.

The shooting occurred a block away from the nightclub where Vick was celebrating his 30th birthday.

Vick was interviewed by detectives in the case a few days later.

"He has sat down with Virginia Beach detectives and answered all their questions and, in our view, has been cooperative ... and I should say cooperative and truthful," Bryant said.

Petacchi wins 4th stage of Tour de France



REIMS, France

(AP)—Alessandro Petacchi of Italy won the fourth stage of the Tour de France in a mass sprint Wednesday, with Lance Armstrong and other contenders for the overall title finishing safely in the pack.

The Lampre rider collected his second stage win this Tour in the 95.4-mile ride from Cambrai to the champagne capital Reims—a mostly flat trek that was tailor-made for sprinters.

Petacchi, who is competing in his first Tour since 2005, veered wide left to get a jump on three lead riders—including Thor Hushovd of Norway and Britain's Mark Cavendish—with about 400 meters left.

By the end, Petacchi had dusted them and edged Julian Dean of New Zealand in second and Edval Boasson Hagen of Norway in third. The pack was given same time as Petacchi: 3 hours, 34 minutes, 55 seconds.

Armstrong crossed 36th, defend-

ing champion Alberto Contador was 32nd and last year's runner-up Andy Schleck placed 58th.

"I'm really happy ... I had nothing to lose, and I wanted to try my chances," said Petacchi, who won four stages in the 2004 Tour. "At this stage in my career, winning two Tour stages is really important."

The Italian veteran schooled Cavendish, who had a lead-out man with him. The Briton, who won six Tour stages last year, hurled his bike in frustration after the stage.

"I don't think he has anything to learn from me," the 36-year-old Petacchi said. "He won six (stages) last year."

Fabian Cancellara of Switzerland retained the yellow jersey, having recovered it during Tuesday's ride over cobblestones—where Armstrong punctured tire and lost precious time.

The other top standngs didn't change.

Among the overall contenders, two-time Tour runner-up Cadel Evans was

third, 39 seconds back, Schleck was sixth, 1:09 back, Contador ninth, 1:40 back, and Armstrong 18th, 2:30 behind.

Armstrong was happy to get out of Wednesday's relatively short stage without mishap after being one of the dozens of riders to crash during a rainy second stage and the flat in Stage 3.

"I didn't want to have a third day in a row of bad luck," he said. "(It's) nice that everybody stayed up."

So how does he handle bad luck?

"You just deal with it, make it happen," he said, before cutting his comments short while being heckled by a nearby fan. "There's always crashes, days like yesterday are so extreme there's nothing you can do."

Before the stage, coming out of the team bus to a huge ovation from fans, Armstrong said he would need to be "opportunistic" in his bid to make up ground in the race, which ends July 25 in Paris.

The next big challenges loom in the Alps, starting with Sunday's eighth stage 8.

USC apologizes to Florida, Alabama, Washington

By RALPH D. RUSSO
AP COLLEGE FOOTBALL WRITER



Southern California has apologized to Florida, Alabama, Washington, Oregon and Fresno State for accusing those

schools of breaking NCAA rules by contacting one of the Trojans' players without permission.

In a letter dated July 1 and addressed to Florida athletic director Jeremy Foley, USC AD Mike Garrett said freshman running back Dillon Baxter confirmed to Garrett that the player "did not receive a call from your institution."

"I apologize for any inconvenience or embarrassment this matter has caused to you and your institution," Garrett wrote in a hand-signed letter.

The letter to Foley was obtained by The Associated Press. Alabama, Washington, Oregon, and Fresno State also confirmed Wednesday that their athletic directors received apology letters from USC.

ESPN.com reported USC filed a

complaint with the Pac-10 in June about several schools tampering with Baxter after the Trojans were hit with NCAA sanctions.

Pac-10 spokeswoman Danette Leighton told the AP in an e-mail that it was the conference's policy not to comment on enforcement matters.

USC received a two-year postseason ban, a loss of scholarships and was forced to vacate victories from the 2004 and '05 seasons for NCAA violations involving former star tailback Reggie Bush.

Because of the sanctions, USC upperclassmen are allowed to transfer without the usual NCAA restrictions, but only juniors and seniors can be contacted by other schools.

New USC coach Lane Kiffin got himself into trouble last year when he was at Tennessee for unjustly accusing Florida coach Urban Meyer of breaking NCAA recruiting rules. Kiffin later had to apologize to Meyer and the Gators.

Kiffin is in his first year at USC after spending one tumultuous season at Tennessee.

Price become AL's first 12-game winner

ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (AP)—David Price pitched into the eighth inning to become the

American League's first 12-game winner and fellow All-Star Evan Longoria ended the longest homerless drought of his career to help the Tampa Bay Rays beat the Boston Red Sox 6-4 and finish a three-game sweep Wednesday.

Price (12-4) allowed two runs, including Mike Cameron's solo homer, while scattering eight hits, walking one and striking out 10 over 7 2-3 innings. The Rays used three pitchers to get the final four outs, with Matt Garza making his first relief appearance in three years and earning his first save.

Longoria's 13th homer of the season—a solo shot in the fourth inning off knuckleballer Tim Wakefield (3-7)—was his first since June 15 against Atlanta and ended a stretch of 78 consecutive at bats over 20 games.

Tigers 4, Orioles 2

At Detroit, Max Scherzer pitched seven solid innings and Danny Worth hit his first homer for Detroit, which swept the three-game series against Baltimore.

The Tigers have won five of six on a homestand that ends against Minnesota.

Scherzer (6-6) has won a career-high four straight. He gave up one run, six hits and two walks while striking out six. Robbie Weinhardt gave up a run in his major league debut and Phil Coke got the final three outs for his first save with the Tigers.

Worth, playing in his 25th game, led off the third with a solo homer to make it 2-0.

Blue Jays 6, Twins 5

At Toronto, Vernon Wells drove in the go-ahead run with a seventh-inning double and Jose Bautista hit an inside-the-park homer for his major league-leading 22nd as Toronto edged Minnesota.

Yankees' Cano out of Home Run Derby

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Robinson Cano won't be swinging for the fences in the Home Run Derby.

While Cano insisted Wednesday his tweaked lower back is just fine and doesn't affect him at the plate, a decision by the Yankees brass had already been made for him. General manager Brian Cashman, manager Joe Girardi and hitting coach Kevin Long—with input from the training staff—opted to keep the All-Star second baseman out of the event Monday in Anaheim.

"He's not going to participate

Wells snapped an 0-for-21 slump with a two-out double off Matt Guerrier (1-5), giving the Blue Jays just their second win in 10 games.

Alex Gonzalez hit his 16th homer for the Blue Jays, who lead the majors with 125.

Scott Downs (3-5) worked 1 1-3 innings for the win and Kevin Gregg wrapped it up in the ninth for his 19th save.

Minnesota's Orlando Hudson went 3 for 4 with three RBIs against his former team, including a two-run homer, and Delmon Young also went deep.

Rangers 4, Indians 3

At Arlington, Texas, Michael Young homered and Josh Hamilton stretched his home hitting streak to 27 games as Texas edged Cleveland.

Hamilton extended the second-longest home hitting streak in club history with an RBI single in the first. Al Oliver hit in 30 straight home games in 1981.

Julio Borbon's two-out single in the sixth off rookie Mitch Talbot (8-8) put Texas ahead.

Cleveland's Jayson Nix homered for the fourth time in three games.

Yankees 6, Athletics 2

At Oakland, California, Mark Teixeira hit a three-run homer to help A.J. Burnett win for the first time in more than five weeks as New York completed a sweep of Oakland.

Derek Jeter had a go-ahead single and Ramiro Pena also singled in a run in New York's five-run fourth inning. The Yankees won their fifth straight and earned their first road sweep of the season.

Burnett (7-7) pitched seven strong innings to end a six-start winless stretch in which he was



Tampa Bay Rays starting pitcher David Price delivers a first-inning pitch to the Boston Red Sox during a baseball game Wednesday, July 7, 2010, in St. Petersburg, Fla. AP

0-5 since beating the Indians on May 30.

Nick Swisher homered and doubled among his three hits against his former team, and he's still doing all he can to be added to the AL All-Star team.

White Sox 5, Angels 2

At Chicago, Freddy Garcia pitched six solid innings and Paul Konerko hit a two-run double as Chicago beat Los Angeles for their fourth straight victory.

The start of the game was delayed because of rain for two hours, 20 minutes.

Chicago won despite making five errors. The Angels lost their third in a row.

Before the game, White Sox pitcher Jake Peavy was put on the 15-day disabled list because of a detached muscle in the back of his right shoulder, an injury

that will almost certainly end his season.

Royals 7, Mariners 3

At Seattle, Alberto Callaspo turned his failed eighth-inning sacrifice bunt attempt into a three-run home run, lifting Kansas City over Seattle.

Callaspo came up in the eighth with the Royals trailing 3-2 and runners on first and second. Reliever Brandon League (5-6) had walked the first two batters. Callaspo was unsuccessful twice in making contact on a bunt.

That just set him up for a full-swing shot into the right-field seats on a 3-2 pitch, his eighth.

Victor Marte (3-0), who worked out of a bases-loaded jam in the seventh, earned the victory.

Casey Kotchman supplied all Seattle's runs with a pair of home runs.

Mets 3, Reds 0

At New York New York's ace pitcher Johan Santana hit his first major league homer, while pitching a shutout as the Mets blanked the Cincinnati Reds.

Santana, a .166 lifetime hitter, steamed around the bases after capping a tenacious 12-pitch at-bat with his first homer in 182 career at-bats.

From the mound, Santana (6-5) struck out five in his seventh career shutout and first since 2008. He'd won only one of his previous seven starts.

Cincinnati starter Matt Malone (0-1) lost in his first game for the Reds this season, after being called up from the

minors earlier in the day and striking out the first seven batters.

Braves 6, Phillies 3, 11 innings

In Philadelphia, Matt Diaz hit a tiebreaking double in the 11th inning then Eric Hinske added a two-run homer as Atlanta saw off Philadelphia.

Yunel Escobar singled off David Herndon (0-2) to start the 11th and scored when Diaz ripped a liner to the gap in right-center. Hinske connected two outs later.

Jesse Chavez (1-1) pitched a scoreless 10th to earn the win. Billy Wagner finished for his 18th save.

Raul Ibanez hit a two-run homer for Philadelphia, which managed just three hits and fell five games behind the NL East-leading Braves.

Rockies 12, Cardinals 9

In Denver, Seth Smith's three-run homer with two outs in the bottom of the ninth capped a nine-run rally for Colorado against St. Louis—the biggest ninth-inning comeback in Rockies history.

The Rockies trailed 9-2 after Matt Holliday's three-run shot in the sixth and got one run in the seventh.

Chris Iannetta hit a three-run homer off Cardinals closer Ryan Franklin (3-1), who allowed six runs while retiring just one batter.

Colorado's Manny Corpas (3-5) got the win with two perfect innings of relief.

Nationals 6, Padres 5

In Washington, Ryan Zimmerman's second homer of the game, leading off the bottom of the ninth, gave Washington victory over San Diego.

Zimmerman hit a fastball from Luke Gregerson (2-4) over the wall in center. He had earlier homered in the fourth.

Ian Desmond also connected, giving the Nationals their fourth three-homer game of the season.

Matt Capps (3-3) worked the ninth for his third victory in six days. Washington claimed its 10th victory in its last at-bat.

Michael Morse broke out of a 2-for-22 slump and matched a career-high with three hits for the Nationals.

Dodgers 7, Marlins 3

In Los Angeles, Matt Kemp hit his fourth homer in six games as Los Angeles overcame Florida.

Vicente Padilla (3-2) allowed two runs over 6 2-3 innings and struck out nine. He is 2-1 with a 3.12 ERA in four outings since

returning from the disabled list.

Rafael Furcal had three RBIs for Los Angeles, which moved within three games of NL West-leading San Diego.

Marlins rookie Mike Stanton chased Padilla with a two-run homer. Stanton added an RBI single in the ninth but Dodgers closer Jonathan Broxton got the final two outs for his 18th save.

Florida starter Chris Volstad (4-8) gave up five runs over three-plus innings in his shortest outing of the season.

Giants 6, Brewers 1

In Milwaukee, San Francisco's heralded rookie Madison Bumgarner notched his first win in the majors, steering San Francisco past Milwaukee.

Bumgarner (1-2) pitched eight shutout innings, striking out five. He also picked up his first career RBI as part of a five-run sixth.

Milwaukee's Randy Wolf (6-8) gave up only one earned run in seven innings, but took the loss as Craig Counsell's two-run throwing error opened the door to San Francisco's big inning.

Milwaukee's Corey Hart had his 20-game hitting streak snapped. Joe Inglett's RBI single in the ninth avoided a shutout.

Cubs 6, Diamondbacks 4

In Phoenix, Aramis Ramirez homered twice as Chicago beat Arizona, completing its first road series victory in six weeks.

Ramirez, hitting .178 going into the game, had his first two-homer game since 2008. He has 22 multi-homer games in his career. He hit a two-run homer off DBacks starter Barry Enright (1-1) in the sixth to put Chicago up 3-1 and another two-run shot to make it 6-2 in the eighth. Kosuke Fukudome also homered for the Cubs.

Chicago starter Carlos Silva (9-2) earned his first victory in five starts. He allowed two runs through six innings.

Kelly Johnson drove in two runs with a home run and single for the Diamondbacks, who lost their fourth straight.

Astros 6, Pirates 2

In Houston, Wandy Rodriguez struck out 10 as Houston ended a three-game losing skid by beating Pittsburgh.

Rodriguez (6-10) finished one strikeout shy of his career-high, which was a year ago against Pittsburgh. He allowed only four singles in seven innings and won his third straight start.

Carlos Lee and Lance Berkman homered and Michael Bourn scored two runs for the Astros, who have won all four meetings with the Pirates this season.

Pittsburgh starter Brad Lincoln (1-3) took the loss.

from what I understand," Girardi said. "We're concerned about his back and how that would affect it. ... We need this guy."

Cano was out of the lineup Wednesday for the first time all season to give him and his back a break. He injured the back Sunday against Toronto and has received some treatment. He had played in all 83 games so far after appearing in 161 last year.

Cano, who has hit a team-leading 16 home runs, had looked forward to the opportunity to be in the derby. He initially said he would be disappointed not to take part.

"I was upset because they

Kagman 1-2-3, Rollers A win in UBA

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roelyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rollers A and Kagman 1-2-3 recorded contrasting wins in the U18 division of the 2010 UBA Youth League last Wednesday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

In the first game, Rollers A rallied from a 25-31 halftime deficit to beat the Sparks, 61-49. In the second match, Kagman 1-2-3 controlled the tempo of its tiff against the Sonics and pre-served a 78-71 win.

Rollers A drew 14 points each from Savali Talalemotu and Eli Aughenbaugh for a 12-point win over the Sparks. Four more Rollers A players made at least two field goals each for the team's balance offense.

Talalemotu scored Rollers A's first two baskets and went on to finish with eight points in the first half. However, the Sparks still took



the driver's seat at the break, 31-25, behind the 10 points apiece of Eugene Manglona and Frank Mettao.

Mettao then went scoreless in the second half and the Sparks had only Manglona drilling more than a field goal for the team in the last 20 minutes of the match, allowing Rollers A to bounce back.

Jason Palacios started the second half with a triple and Rollers A drew contributions from every player it fielded in the game to steal the win from the Sparks.

In the second game, Ichitaro Faisao and Sajh Hossain joined forces in lifting Kagman 1-2-3 to a seven-point win.

Faisao fired 25 points, while Hossain added 24, as they scored more than half of the team's total production. The duo canned baskets in succession in the first half with Faisao nailing six straight points in the



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Ichitaro Faisao, seen here in action in a local tournament in May, scored 25 points in Kagman 1-2-3's 78-71 win over the Sonics in the U18 division game in the UBA youth caging last Wednesday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

switching to a half-court pressure defense from backcourt trap, which Aguon's wards used in their first four games.

The new defensive alignment produced dividends for the Nationals, as they held the Saints to 37 points, the lowest output by a team so far in the league.

"It doesn't matter how big our winning margin is, as long as we execute our defensive and offensive plays and focus on the task on hand. It is still a long way to go and we hope to see more improvement on the team, as the league progresses," Aguon said.

With the Nationals scram-

bling on defense in every Saints' half-court set, the former took a 13-7 lead at the end of the first period. In the next three quarters, the Nationals slowly padded the lead to improve to a 5-0 record in the nine-team league.

Lizama led the Nationals with 15 points, while Barcina added 12. Mel Manibusan was the top-scorer for Saints with nine markers.

Hoegaarden IT&E 72, Sixers 66

In the first game, Hoegaarden IT&E pulled off a come-from-behind win over the Michelob Sixers, 71-66.

Puyol leaped and got the ball.

He headed it with such power that his long curls whipped across his face. Neuer dived to his left, but had no chance to stop the ball as it thundered into the net.

"We should have intercepted that ball," Loew said.

Not a chance.

Instead, the Germans could only watch in dismay as the Spanish players gathered for a group hug at the edge of the box, bouncing up and down and rubbing each other's heads. As the Germans trudged back into position, Lukas Podolski barked at his teammates in frustration.

This wasn't what the Germans envisioned after overhauling their team following the Euro 2008 loss, bringing in youngsters such as Mesut Oezil,

Sami Khedira and goal-scoring machine Thomas Mueller, who was suspended against Spain after picking up a second yellow card in the quarterfinals.

The newcomers infused Germany with a speed and smoothness few other teams could match, and it rolled over old rivals England and Argentina by a combined score of 8-1.

But there's something about Spain that brings out the worst in the Germans, and they looked as if they were back in Vienna

for much of the night.

Those counterattacks that were so devastating against England and Argentina never materialized, and the midfield spacing that had been so impressive was almost nonexistent.

"We can say Germany wasn't as good as we thought they'd be today," Spain coach Vicente del Bosque said. "But that is due to the excellent performance of our team."

The Germans were devastated after the final whistle, with captain Philipp Lahm breaking down in tears and Bastian Schweinsteiger crumpling to his knees. Not even a consoling pat on the back from Puyol helped.

This was the three-time champions' third straight trip to the World Cup semifinals. Yet just like in 2006, they are headed for the third-place game.

"Right now, I really don't feel like playing for third place," Lahm said. "The disappointment is very big. We had a lot as our goal and we didn't succeed."

For the Spanish, it's everything they've been working for these last four years.

"We worked hard to get here and now we have made the final," Villa said. "It's a great thing."

One more big goal, one more big game.

early goings of the first half and then Hossain answering back with his own six consecutive markers.

Midway in the first half, Faisao went on another scoring spree, tallying nine straight points and he and Hossain ended the first half with back-to-back treys for Kagman 1-2-3's 40-35 halftime lead.

Sonics managed to neutralize Faisao, who had only three points in the second half, but not Hossain. Hossain scored Kagman's first seven points in the second half and his teammates stepped up in the closing minutes of the match in absence of Faisao to keep the win.

First Game

Rollers A 61 – Talalemotu 14, Aughenbaugh 14, Danas 8, Palacios 7, Hambros 6, Norita 5, Aulerio 4, Torres 2.

Sparks 49 – E. Manglona 19, Mettao 10, Santos 8, Norita 5, M. Manglona 5, Bornilla 2.

Scoring by halves: 25-31, 61-49.

Second Game

Kagman 1-2-3 78 – Faisao 25, Hossain 24, Pangelinean 11, Lisua 8, Camacho 6, Kaipat 4.

Sonics 71 – Ajoste 21, Ecalnea 16, Palacios 15, Cadiang 12, Villanueva 6, Ferrer 4.

Scoring by halves: 40-35, 78-71.

originally appropriated for the 2010 Saipan International Fishing Tournament.

With the \$60,000 assistance, NMASA required each delegate to pay only \$426 for the Palau trip. NMASA is shouldering \$250 of the more than \$1,000 estimated cost per delegate to the Games.

NATIONALS

From Page 36

Saints player hit him on the nose during a rebound play.

"He is in great shape. We gave him a lot of minutes so he can fit in the system quickly," Nationals coach Rufino Aguon said.

Quan's arrival will give the Nationals more muscle and ceiling inside, as he is expected to team up with Jack Lizama, James Lee, and Peter Mendiola in the paint.

With a new player suiting up for the team, the Nationals tried a new variation on their defense,

SPAIN

From Page 36

raced out to join them. Two teammates grabbed Villa, who has scored all but two of Spain's goals here, and carried him on their shoulders.

In the stands, Spanish fans partied deep into the night, waving flags, banging on drums and singing chorus after chorus of "Ole! Ole! Ole!"

"This is one of the greatest moments for Spain, for us to be in the final of the World Cup, it's history," said Villa, who remains tied with Netherlands playmaker Wesley Sneijder for the tournament scoring lead at five goals apiece. "And we want to make more history in the final."

Somebody will.

Spain faces the Netherlands on Sunday at Soccer City in Johannesburg, ensuring a first-time champion. The Dutch, who beat Uruguay 3-2 on Tuesday night, have lost in their only two trips to the final.

The two teams have never met in the World Cup and their all-time series is dead even.

"I am sure the Spanish can win any game," Germany coach Joachim Loew said, "because they are dominant and it's hard to contain their attack."

the lead in the closing minutes of the fourth period, but Esdrelon scored six of Hoegaarden IT&E's last six points to preserve the win.

First Game

Hoegaarden IT&E 72 – Mendoza 19, Esdrelon 16, Fernandez 10, Talania 10, Capalad 8, Berline 2.

Michelob Sixers 66 – Ada 26, Wright 17, M. Duenas 17, E. Duenas 4, Belyeu 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-19, 28-32, 45-51, 72-66.

Second Game

Bud Light Nationals 61 – Lizama 15, Barcina 12, Iguel 7, Johnson 6, Mendiola 6, Naranja 4, Lee 4, Quan 3, Chariton 2.

Budweiser Saints 37 – Manibusan 9, Camacho 7, Kapileo 6, Tumaquip 5, Lu. Reyes 4, La. Reyes 2, Aranda 2, White 2.

Scoring by quarters: 13-7, 27-20, 40-29, 61-37.

spots before the derby begins will not be allowed.

For complete rules or to register, contact Martin Dueñas of MVA at 664.3200 or mduenas@mymarianas.com or Sandra Atalig of MVA-Rota at 532.0327 or satalig@mymarianas.com. (PR)

ROTA

From Page 36

\$300, and \$200.

Weigh-ins will be at each fishing site in the morning and evening of July 31 and on the morning of Aug. 1. Reserving

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	53	31	.631	–
Tampa Bay	51	33	.607	2
Boston	49	36	.576	4 1/2
Toronto	42	43	.494	11 1/2
Baltimore	25	59	.298	28

Central Division

Detroit	46	37	.554	–
Chicago	45	38	.542	1
Minnesota	45	39	.536	1 1/2
Kansas City	39	46	.459	8
Cleveland	33	51	.393	13 1/2

West Division

Texas	50	34	.595	–
Los Angeles	46	41	.529	5 1/2
Oakland	41	45	.477	10
Seattle	34	50	.405	16

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	50	35	.588	–
New York	47	38	.553	3
Philadelphia	43	40	.518	6
Florida	40	44	.476	9 1/2
Washington	38	47	.447	12

Central Division

Cincinnati	49	37	.570	–

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White eyes more coaching course

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roelyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



After gaining a Level II coaching certification, Northern Marianas Athletics' Gabriel White is hoping to attend more coaching course to eventually join an elite group of coaches in the region.

White completed the International Association of Athletics Federations Coaches Education and Certification System Level II Coaches Course in Guam last month and is three notches away from making it to the elite class.

"This course benefited me in a great way. It not only enhanced everything I currently know, but also allowed me to receive an IAAF Level II Coaching Certification, opening up more pathways for me to achieve the highest IAAF Coaching Certification (Level 5-Elite Coach)," White said.

So far, NMA national coach Elias Rangamar is the only CNMI coach to receive the Level 5 coaching certification from IAFF. He is currently in Australia, attending the 2010 Athletics North Queensland OzSquad Camp,

"Getting the Level II certification will allow me to travel around the world to attend other development courses, and accompany national athletes to regional and interna-



Gabriel White does a triple jump during the practical session of a Level II coaching course at the Ramsey Track and Field facility in Guam last month.

tional competitions while furthering my coaching skills and abilities at the same time. My hard work during the course paid off because I have been recommended to participate in the next course as an IAAF Course Lecturer. I'm excited about that," White said.

He added he is looking forward to applying the things he learned from the course in training CNMI athletes.

"As part of the NMA coaching staff, I will assist to help improve the development of future potential athletes, as well as our current national athletes. It will

be a labor of love to work with athletes to continuously bring pride and honor to the CNMI in the long run," White said.

"NMA dominated the recent Oceania Athletics Championships last year in Australia and we intend to haul in medals in the upcoming 7th Micronesian Games in Palau next month. There are so many athletics events around the world, which we will be participating in for this year, next year, and years to come. We can only get better and stronger in the years to come. But it all starts here at the Oleai Sports Complex track and

field facility. I plan to utilize all that I learned and make this happen for the CNMI," he added.

White got his Level II coaching certification after completing the two-week course at the Ramsey Track and Field facility at the John F. Kennedy High School, in Tumon, Guam. Athletics Australia head coach and IAAF Regional Development Center director, Fletcher McEwen, and John Nablo of the Federated States of Micronesia conducted the course for 13 coaches from the CNMI, Guam, FSM, Marshall Islands, and Palau.

Saures to fight in Singapore, Ogo off to RP

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Two CNMI mixed martial arts fighters will be competing in off-island events this month, as Jordan "Jungle Boy" Ogo of Team Haga and "Kill" Bill Saures of Team XXTREME will fight in the Philippines and Singapore, respectively.

Ogo will be fighting for a pin-weight division title belt against Roy "The Punisher" Docyogen in the URCC 17: Havoc. The MMA event is organized by the Universal Reality Combat Championships and will be held on July 24 at the A-Avenue Events Center in Makati, Philippines.

Docyogen is the Philippines' current undisputed champion in the division. People around him claim that he never gives up and will do anything to keep his title.

He is also known as a very good striker and an excellent takedown artist. Docyogen is 25 years old, stands 5'5" and fights for Team Lakay Wushu. He boasts an overall MMA record of seven wins with zero losses. There are 10 total matches on the URCC 17 fightcard and the pin-weight division varies between 110-119 lbs.

Trench Tech president Cuki Alvarez personally hand-picked



Saures

Ogo for the fight.

"I received an e-mail from URCC matchmaker Willy 'Chef' Carlos last month. He said that [they were] looking for a Saipan fighter in the 110-115 lb. class with an unblemished fighting record to go against their pin-weight champ. So I went through my fighters list and immediately took notice of Jordan Ogo. He is exactly 115 lbs. and is undefeated in three fights, so the choice was perfect," he said



excited for the opportunity and will definitely fight his heart out. Of course we aren't promising that he will win, but we do promise that he will put up a great fight and fight for the victory," added Alvarez.

Not be outdone, Saures will be competing in ESPN STAR's Martial Combat in Singapore this July 15. He will be pitted against heavyweight Korean fighter, Joo Su Lim, in the 205-lb. weight class.

Martial Combat is Singapore's premier MMA promotion sponsored by ESPN STAR in Asia.

Saures also has been training at Trench Tech this past week and will try his best to represent the CNMI.

"Just last week, I received an e-mail from Victor Cui, fight

for Jordan, as he is going up against the country's undisputed pin-weight champ, but he is

the official governing body of MMA in Asia, the Asian MMA Federation, sanctions Martial Combat. AMMAF is formally recognized by ESPN STAR Sports.

For more information about Saures' event, go to www.espnstar.com or www.martialcombat.com. For more information about Ogo's title shot check out www.urccmma.com.

Saipan Summer Tennis Open 2010 starts today

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



The Saipan Summer Tennis Open 2010 will kick off today with six opening matches at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

First up in the calendar of the weekend tournament is the girls' open division duel between Melody Johnson and Mikayla Lopez at 1pm. Also colliding in the 1pm matches in the girls' open division are Emily Jones and Jee Hyun Lee and Tiffany Madlambayan and J.A. Briosos.

At 2:30pm, Peter Loyola will square off against Ralph Buenaventura for a men's open division game. Two boys' junior matches are also set for 2:30pm with Ji Hoon Choi taking on Angelo Jones and Amami Sakano battling Daniel Park.

Action in the three-day tournament will then continue tomorrow with morning and afternoon matches scheduled at the AMP courts.

At 8am, three men's open division matches will be played with Jeff Race facing Jang Dong Ik, Todd Montgomery challenging Rafael Jones, and Bobby Cruz dueling Daniel Park.

At 9:30am, Lydia Tan will play against Flor Jones in the women's open division game, while Carl Dela Cruz will be pitted against Kennedy Izuka in the boys' junior open match.

Afternoon matches tomorrow will feature semifinalists in the men's and boys' open divisions. The third place game



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Jeff Race will be one of the players who will see action in the Saipan Summer Tennis Open 2010, which will kick off today at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

in the girls' junior open division is also scheduled Saturday afternoon, while title matches of the four divisions will all be played on Sunday.

The Loyola Sports Promotion-organized and TSL Foundation—and Marianas Medical Center-sponsored Saipan Summer Tennis Open 2010 will serve as the CNMI netters' final tune-up games for two off-island tournaments.

The Commonwealth's junior netters will head to Fiji later this month for the 2010 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships, while the CNMI National Team will compete in the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau in August.

Masters 3-on-3 caging set for July 31



The Masters Basketball Federation of the NMI will be holding the "Summer Blast 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament Fundraiser" on July 31 at the Pacific Islands Club court.

The one-day tournament will be held in cooperation with PIC and Pacific Trading, Co.

Interested teams need to pay only \$175 to join the tournament. Registration fee covers uniform and PIC water park passes. Players are also entitled to win raffle prizes.

Squads can have as many as five players in their roster. Format and rules of the 3-on-3 caging will be announced days before the tournament kicks off.

MBFNMI president Ray Lizama said the 3-on-3 tournament aims to keep Masters players active this summer after the association concluded two tournaments. MBFNMI finished its inaugural 35A league early last month and then held a Liberation

Day caging early this month.

Deadline to register for the 3-on-3 caging is set for July 24. For more information, contact Joe Pangilinan at 234-6925, Arnold Erediano at 234-9797 or 888-1610, or e-mail MBFNMI at mastersbasketball_670@yahoo.com.

CPR training sign-up deadline

Meanwhile, MBFNMI is reminding its members that the deadline for registration for the CPR/AED training is on July 16.

The American Red Cross-CNMI Chapter will be conducting the CPR/AED training for officials, coaches, and board of directors this month.

"MBFNMI will be the first basketball organization to hold such CPR/AED training. Playing sports make players prone to injuries so we should know how to administer proper care to players who need immediate medical attention," an earlier statement from MBFNMI stated. (Roselyn B. Monroyo)



Bosh joins Wade in Miami, as they wait for LeBron

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Saipan Tribune Sports



White eyes more coaching course

PAGE 35

36 FRIDAY, JULY 9, 2010

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

\$40K more approved for Micro Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The government has finally followed through on its promise of financial assistance to athletes and officials participating in the 7th Micronesian Games after Acting Gov. Eloy Inos signed into law two bills, appropriating \$40,000 for Team CNMI's trip to Palau next month.

The two bills' signing brings to \$60,000 the amount appropriated by the government for the Commonwealth's participation in the quadrennial event.

Inos approved in part, and disapproved in part House Bill 17-88, entitled "To amend Public Law 16-21 Section 2 (c) and for other purposes" and introduced by Rep. Diego Benavente, last Wednesday, appropriating \$75,000 to various projects.

Of the \$75,000, \$20,000 will go to the Micro Games expenses, \$25,000 for the 2010 Liberation Day activities, and \$20,000 to the Obyan Power distribution

project. The \$10,000 appropriated for the Saipan Fishing Derby was line-item vetoed by the acting governor.

Inos on the same day approved House Local Bill 17-22, D1, entitled "To re-appropriate \$40,000 from Saipan Local Law No. 15-16, Section 2 (f) and for other purposes. Rep. Ralph Yumul introduced the bill.

The \$40,000 will go to China Town basketball court renovation (\$16,000), construction of two bus shelters in Puerto Rico (\$10,000) and to pay for the entertainment of the 2010 Liberation Day Festivities (\$14,000). An additional re-appropriation of \$20,000 is given to the Micro Games. The money is from the unobligated/lapsed funds from Saipan Local Law 16-5 under BU3313F.

Late last month, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial approved Section 3, A (2) of House Local Bill 17-14 D2, which says \$20,000 is appropriated to fund

the upcoming Micronesian Games. The amount is part of the unobligated/lapsed funds from Saipan Local Law 15-33 under BY 3391B.

The \$60,000 will be released to Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association, which is the lead group that requested assistance from the government to help Team CNMI's campaign in the Micro Games.

The question now is when the funds will be released, as in less than a month more than 100 CNMI athletes/officials are heading to Palau for the quadrennial event. The Micro Games will run from Aug. 1 to 10.

NMSA president Michael White said during the association's monthly meeting last night that he will coordinate with the Department of Finance for the release of the funds.

In the past, the government released money for projects needing urgent funding. Just like last Wednesday with the CNMI All-Stars' campaign for the Asia Pacific Regional Tournament.

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Spain beats Germany 1-0 in World Cup semifinal



DURBAN, South Africa (AP)—They pressured Germany the entire match and peppered its goalkeeper so many times a score seemed inevitable.

Finally, with a mighty swing of his head that sent his long, curly locks flying, Spain's Carles Puyol got it done.

With the World Cup final in reach—and Queen Sofia cheering from the stands—La Roja came through with their best game yet.

"We've shown that in the big moments we can grow even more," striker David Villa said after Spain's 1-0 semifinal victory over Germany on Wednesday night. "We should have scored more goals, but one from Puyol has put us in the final."

Spain will play for the World Cup title for the very first time, thanks to Puyol's goal on that powerful header in the second half. The game was a repeat, down to the final score, of the 2008 European Championship final when Spain beat Germany to win its first major title in 44 years.

European bragging rights are one thing. Being the world champion is something else.

When the final whistle sounded, the Spanish players on the field thrust their arms in the air while the substitutes

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Spain's Carles Puyol, front, scores a goal during the World Cup semifinal soccer match between Germany and Spain at the stadium in Durban, South Africa, Wednesday, July 7, 2010.

AP

Nationals keep winning streak

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Bud Light CNMI Nationals extended their winning run to five, following a 61-37 victory over the Budweiser Saints in the second game of the 2010 Budweiser Men's Basketball League on Wednesday night at Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The win was a good welcome for Tim Quan, who suited up for the Nationals for the first time since arriving on Saipan from the mainland on Tuesday. Quan debuted for the Nationals with three points, a couple of rebounds, loose shorts, and a bleeding nose.

He scored the first basket for the Nationals and then started for the team in the second half. Quan then trooped to the foul line midway in the third period and made his first free throw. Before aiming for the second one, he had to adjust the strings of his over-sized shorts and that had been the case for the most part of the game. Quan then had to leave the court midway in the fourth when a wayward elbow from a

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Bud Light CNMI Nationals' Quincy Johnson fakes off the defense of the Budweiser Saints' Joseph White during their game in the Budweiser caging last Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Rota Cliff Fishing Derby set this month

Cliff fishing competition returns to Rota this month with the Rota Cliff Fishing Derby set for July 30 through Aug. 1.

Sponsored by the Marianas Visitors Authority, the event aims to attract visitors to the tropical island for competition at three well-known fishing sites—As Matmos, Malilok, and Pona Point.

Registration is \$25. Derby check in will be at 4:30pm on July 30 at Guata Beach Park, followed by orientation at 5pm and the start of the derby at 5:30pm. The derby will end 12 noon on the final day. An awards luncheon will also be held.

"Cliff fishing is extremely popular



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pona Point will be one of three sites for the Rota Cliff Fishing Derby set for July 30 through Aug. 1.